

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNITION OF MADISON COUNTY ON ITS BICENTENNIAL

HON. MARY JO KILROY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 25, 2010

Ms. KILROY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the 200th anniversary of Madison County. This central Ohio county has reached its bicentennial milestone, during which we reflect on the history of the region and pay tribute to the proud and industrious families who live and work in Madison County today.

On February 16, 2010, Madison County residents celebrated two centuries of accomplishments, challenges, and growth. Established in 1810, Madison County was named after America's fourth president, James Madison and encompasses 467 square miles in central Ohio. Whether they are members of close-knit communities such as Mount Sterling, Plain City, West Jefferson, London, Midway, and South Solon, or part of the larger agricultural heritage of the surrounding homesteads, roughly 43,000 Ohioans call Madison County home. The county also offers a diverse workforce. From innovators that develop breakthroughs in research at Battelle Labs in West Jefferson, to the Amish farming tradition around Plain City, residents are both forward-thinking and grounded by their strong work ethic.

Madison County has been one of America's agricultural leaders. To this day, 88% of the land in the county is utilized for farming, ranking fourth in soybean and corn production in the state of Ohio. Because of the critical position agriculture holds in Madison County agricultural industry, it annually hosts The Ohio State University's Farm Science Review, one of the largest farm exhibitions in the world.

Madison County is home to Ohio's only natural plains, smaller versions of the Great Plains found in the West. They are dotted by family cemeteries of original settlers, often studied by genealogists across the state. Numerous attractions—such as the Madison Lake State Park, Lake Choctaw, the Red Brick Tavern, the Jonathan Alder Cabin, and Big Darby Creek State and National Scenic River—as well as many local parks and segments of the Prairie Grass Trail make Madison County a great place to live, work, and visit.

For two hundred years, Madison residents have played a vital role in the growth of central Ohio and particularly to Ohio's 15th Congressional District. I am proud to represent the residents of Madison County and to honor them as they celebrate two hundred years of history and achievement.

HONORING DR. SARAH MESSIAH

HON. MARIO DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 25, 2010

Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a talented and hardworking physician from South Florida, Dr. Sarah Messiah.

As a member of the University of Miami's Miller School of Medicine, Dr. Messiah is taking part in ground-breaking research on childhood obesity and how to best prevent childhood diseases through healthy eating, more exercising and overall changes in lifestyle habits. She has testified before the Senate, and her work has been reviewed by the White House. As a mother of three and a former Olympic athlete, Dr. Messiah understands the need for ensuring that children lead a healthy lifestyle starting at a young age. One of her daughters is even a participant in an awareness campaign throughout Washington, DC, calling for healthier eating habits and foods for children.

I commend Dr. Messiah for her commitment and dedication to the wellbeing of our community's children and thank her for the work she continues to do each day, as a mother and as a professional. As we celebrate Women's History Month, I ask that you join me in congratulating Dr. Messiah for her accomplishments in medicine and her commitment to excellence.

INTRODUCTION OF A BILL TO REQUIRE INDEXATION OF DEFERRED ANNUITIES FOR DEPARTING EMPLOYEES

HON. JAMES P. MORAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 25, 2010

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce a bill to require indexation of deferred annuities for departing federal employees.

Federal employees who leave the U.S. Government before age 62 must either defer their retirement annuity until they turn 62, or immediately withdraw the amount they have contributed to the Civil Service Retirement and Disability Fund (CSRDF) for retirement. The amount of their annuity is not indexed for inflation, so younger employees have little incentive to opt for a deferred annuity that will lose real value over time.

Paradoxically, changing the law to index deferred annuities would reduce the federal budget deficit for the first several years following enactment, as many more federal employees opt for a deferred annuity and outlays from the Treasury to pay departing employees an immediate lump sum decrease significantly.

The long-term effect on the budget is likely to be neutral. Outlays for annuities to retirees

several years in the future will increase, but because employees' contributions to the CSRDF must, by law, be invested in U.S. Treasury bonds, the interest will offset future increased outlays.

At a time when the Federal Government is facing the challenge of an aging workforce and federal employees are paid 26 percent less than their counterparts in the private sector, the excellent benefits package the Federal Government offers is a key recruiting tool. Indexing federal employees' deferred annuities will improve that package, and at the same time reduce the deficit in the short term.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

RECOGNITION OF THE COLUMBUS CHAPTER OF THE MOLES ON ITS 50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. MARY JO KILROY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 25, 2010

Ms. KILROY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Columbus Chapter of the MOLES on its 50th Anniversary. The MOLES, an acronym for Maturity, Optimism, Loyalty, Enthusiasm, and Sparkle, is a social organization consisting of nearly 1,000 women in 30 chapters across the United States.

The MOLES was chartered in Norfolk, Virginia, in 1950. Although the original purpose of the group was to foster fun, pleasure and fellowship, the members soon realized that some in their respective communities needed a helping hand. Chapters across the country have contributed to the health and physical needs of the less fortunate, provided scholarships, assisted the aged, blind and underprivileged, and encouraged racial equality in their communities. In 1960, fourteen women dedicated to the ideals and goals of the MOLES organization formed the Columbus Chapter. This sisterhood of joyful and compassionate women has remained a steadfast component in Franklin County.

On February 27, 2010, the Columbus Chapter of the MOLES celebrated its 50th year of fellowship and service to others. In attendance that night was Eleanor DeLoache, one of the original members of the Columbus chapter. The Columbus MOLES has been an exemplary social and service organization for 50 years, and I am proud to offer them my congratulations and wish them the best of luck in their future endeavors.

HANNA BOYS CENTER

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 25, 2010

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today along with my colleague,

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

Congresswoman LYNN WOOLSEY, to recognize and honor Hanna Boys Center, which has been providing a home and education to students in Northern California for 60 years.

The school began as an experimental program for neglected and troubled boys in 1944 in Menlo Park, south of San Francisco. The 25 original students were referred to the new school by social service agencies and parish priests. The demand quickly outweighed the physical resources of the small school and after a very successful speaking tour, enough funds were raised to purchase 157 acres in the Sonoma Valley, the school's home today.

By 1949, classrooms, an administration building, a chapel, gymnasium, swimming pool and one residence hall had been completed. The first students entered the Sonoma Valley campus by the end of that year. Today 109 boys ages 13 to 18 call the campus home.

Although Hanna students come to the school from throughout the country, most are from our combined Congressional districts. Many are from troubled homes.

There is a fully accredited high school on campus and all students can participate in woodshop, choir, soccer, baseball, track and basketball. Football is provided at nearby Sonoma Valley High School.

Thirty-four Hanna graduates are currently serving in the military. Graduates include very successful businessmen and civic leaders or simply men who live quiet lives of contribution and contentment.

Only three directors have piloted the school in its 60-year history, founder Monsignor O'Connor for 23 years, Father James Pulskamp for 12 years and Father John Crews for the past 25 years, a testament itself to the loyalty the school inspires.

Madam Speaker, Hanna Boys Center changes lives. It has been a stabilizing influence on hundreds of young men who have passed through its doors. It is therefore, appropriate that we honor the school for 60 years of dedicated service to our community.

HONORING DR. EDGAR WAYBURN

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 25, 2010

Ms. WOOLSEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor our mutual friend and advocate emeritus for the environment, Dr. Edgar Wayburn, who died March 5th in San Francisco after more than a century walking this Earth that he so loved.

"He has saved more of the wilderness than anyone alive," said President Clinton in 1999 when he awarded Dr. Wayburn the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the Nation's highest civilian honor.

Born in Macon, Georgia, in 1906, at the age of 21 he trekked to California where he followed in John Muir's steps and was awed by the magnificence of Yosemite and the Sierra Nevada. He returned east to earn a medical degree at Harvard, and then in 1933 he moved to San Francisco to practice medicine and to fall in love with the sparkling waters of the bay and the golden hills surrounding it. In 1939 Ed joined the Sierra Club—in order to go on a burro trip, he claimed in his memoirs. He never left the organization, serving five terms

as president, and ultimately honored as the club's Honorary Lifetime President.

Ed served four years in the Air Force during World War II and returned to San Francisco in 1946. There on the slopes of Mt. Tamalpais, he met his future wife, the stylish Peggy Elliot, an ad agency staffer and a former Vogue editor. Together they formed a formidable team for conservation, Ed the persistent, quiet spoken persuader of the powerful; Peggy, the brilliant wordsmith and organizer. And together they raised four children, William, Cynthia, Laurie and Diana—whose education included being packed into the family station wagon for summer rambles across the vast West.

Mt. Tamalpais, one of the couple's favorite hiking spots, was also the inspiration for Ed's first foray into conservation. With the Bay Area sprawling during the post-war boom, he wondered how much longer the signature peak of Marin County could remain green and undisturbed. Joining with Sierra Club activists and local residents, he began buttonholing State legislators and pressed for a series of acquisitions that expanded Mt. Tamalpais State Park from 870 acres to 6,300 acres over a period of 24 years.

In the early 60s developers set their sites on the Marin Headlands, quiet hills and valleys along the Marin Coast, just 15 minutes from the Golden Gate Bridge, a perfect place for a new suburb of the city, population 25,000. While local conservationists rallied to stop this kind of development in Marin County, Dr. Wayburn headed a movement to make the Headlands, along with Alcatraz Island, Muir Woods, the Presidio and Ocean Beach into a new national park. Through his alliance with Congressman Phil Burton and his persuasive touch with Nixon administration officials, including the President himself, Dr. Wayburn was instrumental in establishing a whole new entity, the Golden Gate National Recreational Area, an "urban" national park.

During much of the time period, he worked tirelessly to establish the GGNRA's spectacular neighbor, the Pt. Reyes National Seashore. Together these two jewels have brought into public ownership lands rich in forests, meadows, marshes and rocky shores, bursting with wildlife on the urban edge of 12 million people.

In 1968, despite the opposition of much of the timber industry and the angry buzzing of chainsaw vigilantes, he convinced Congress to establish Redwood National Park in Humboldt County and to double its size ten years later.

He continued his quiet and persistent leadership of the Sierra Club, even while conducting a full-time medical practice and teaching at Stanford University and UC San Francisco. Then in 1980 after thirteen years of an intense lobbying campaign led by Dr. Wayburn, and aided by Peggy Wayburn's two books on Alaska wilderness, Congress passed the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act. The legislation added 104 million acres to our national parks and refuge systems and effectively doubled our nation's parkland.

"I have loved medicine and conservation," he is quoted in the Journal of the San Francisco Medical Society. "In one sense, my involvement with both might be summed up in a single word: survival. Medicine is concerned with the short term survival of the human species, conservation with the long term survival of the human and other species as well. We are all related."

Several years ago, Madam Speaker, we both joined Dr. Wayburn in a small redwood grove in the Presidio of San Francisco as it was being dedicated to honor Peggy and Edgar Wayburn. The redwood is a survivor of millions of years of evolution, fire, changing climate and the chainsaw. It is nature's tallest tree and can live for two thousand years. It is fitting that Edgar Wayburn will be remembered among our planet's natural wonders.

RECOGNITION OF LONNIE CARMON
FOR HIS CONTRIBUTIONS TO
AVIATION

HON. MARY JO KILROY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 25, 2010

Ms. KILROY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Lonnie Carmon, who in 1926 became the first African American to fly a plane in central Ohio. Through his persistence, creativity, and ingenuity, Lonnie contributed to the evolution of aviation as well as the advancement of African Americans. The Ohio Historical Society has honored Lonnie Carmon for his role in the history of aviation in Ohio with a tribute to aviators who lived and flew out of Columbus.

Lonnie Carmon was affectionately referred to as the "junk man" for his recycling business, in which he would take discarded goods and sell them to people who could use them. Lonnie was a creative and inventive man who built his aircraft himself with little guidance, using materials he came across in his recycling business. His ability to turn what others considered trash into a working airplane has made him a pioneer in the field and for this reason he is celebrated during National Aviation Month every November.

Lonnie Carmon was recognized in 2004 by the Columbus Regional Airport Authority, which dedicated its 2003 Annual Report to the celebration of the History of Aviation in Central Ohio during the 75th anniversary of Port Columbus International Airport. The Annual Report included a photograph of Lonnie and the aircraft he built and flew.

Lonnie Carmon was honored by his granddaughter and other members of the Columbus community on February 20, 2010, at the Ohio Historical Center where he received a Citation of Achievement from Mayor Michael Coleman. State Representative and House Majority Floor Leader Tracy Maxwell Heard also issued a resolution of recognition in celebration of Lonnie's accomplishments. Lonnie Carmon, along with all those who contributed to the history of flight in Ohio, will continue to be honored and recognized for his impact on aviation. I am proud to honor Lonnie Carmon, for his drive, innovation, and ability as a pioneer in Ohio aviation history.

I STAND IN HONOR OF A REAL
AMERICAN HERO, SSG JAMES S.
CLARK, U.S. ARMY

HON. CHARLES A. GONZALEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 25, 2010

Mr. GONZALEZ. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of a real American hero, SSG

James S. Clark of Aco 1/17 IN. I ask that this poetic tribute penned by Albert Caswell of the Capitol Guide Service, be placed in the RECORD in honor of Staff Sergeant Clark. On October 15, 2009, James lost his leg and almost his life, in an IED explosion in Khandahar Afghanistan. Like many of our fine sons and daughters, who have been injured, he has, and will continue to, inspire us all with his faith, courage and determination during his recovery. James plans to move to San Antonio, Texas to live with his wife Kae-c and their children Samarra and Izeyah and their family to receive treatment. We welcome another great American veteran and his family with open arms, to our community of heroic heroes—patriots who have served our Nation over the years.

I STAND

I STAND!
I stood, so you can sleep . . .
While, out across our nation so many fine families weep . . .
For all of my Brothers and Sisters In Arms, who but their promises did so keep!
As I raised my hand, and swore with all my heart . . . for something true!
To live and die, and not ask why . . . all for that Old Red, White, and Blue!
As I cried, as I watched my Brothers die!
As they stood and so did I, to protect you . . . the reasons why . . .
Yes, my fine leg I have lost . . .
But, such things are but the high price . . . of freedom's cost!
And now, I must rebuild . . . and oh yes . . . yes I will!
For, I Will Stand . . . And I Will Run!
For all my Fallen Brothers, I will live to see the new day's sun!
For what I have lost, so much more I've gained . . .
As now my new war's just begun!
As I work through all of this heartache, and pain . . .
Until I'm done!
For I'm not half the man I used to be . . .
For the sum, is far much more greater inside of me!
For I'd rather stand for something, than nothing at all!
I won't moan, and I won't crawl . . .
As I will run again, standing tall . . .
For I am, an Army Man!
Like all of my Brothers, Army Strong I So Stand!
In life, there's only so much time!
To Stand For Something, To Heaven Find!
I'd rather stand for something than nothing at all!
Can you but not hear, my heart call?
For such men of such worth, as James . . .
Are put upon this earth, to stand . . . and in our souls remain . . .
To Teach Us . . . To Reach Us . . . to All of Our Hearts . . .
To So Beseech Us . . .
And if I ever have a son, I but hope and pray . . . he could be like this one!
Who Stands!

NASA'S CONSTELLATION PROGRAM

HON. JASON CHAFFETZ

OF UTAH

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 25, 2010

Mr. CHAFFETZ. Madam Speaker, the most fundamental responsibility of the Federal Government is to "provide for the common defence."

America's national defense strategy fundamentally depends on supremacy in space. Our troops on the battlefields in Afghanistan and Iraq depend on crucial intelligence-gathering and communication capabilities, which in turn rely on a robust space program.

But the current Administration proposal would cancel the Constellation program, NASA's safest and most proven means to return to space.

We've spent billions to build an International Space Station. Do we want to rely upon the Russians whenever we need to return? Under the Administration's proposal, we would.

Do we want to be buying rocket parts from China because we have decimated our national industrial base? Or do we want to maintain the strong industrial sector on our own?

Do we want our military to rely on others to send vital navigation and communication satellites into orbit? Or do we want our country to decide when and how those vital coordination satellites are launched into space?

We need to restore the Constellation program and maintain our superiority in space.

HONORING OLIVIA PERRY FOR WINNING THE LESSONS OF THE AFRICAN-AMERICAN EXPERIENCE WRITING CONTEST

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 25, 2010

Mr. COURTNEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Olivia Perry as a winner of the first annual "Lessons of the African-American Experience" Creative Writing Contest. Olivia is currently in the fourth grade at Woodstock Elementary School, which is located in Woodstock, Connecticut.

In celebration of Black History Month, I sponsored a creative writing contest for all third through eighth grade students within the Second District. As we know, Black History Month is a time to reflect on the struggles and triumphs of our nation's past. The lessons learned during this month continue to serve as the stepping stones of our nation's future. Olivia's essay "Perseverance" eloquently embraces this belief.

Olivia's essay shows a remarkable enthusiasm for learning that is inspiring to all. She identified the values that she learned during Black History Month and creatively discussed how those values affect her life and the lives of others. For this, her essay was among the four winners selected.

RECOGNITION OF NATHAN ELFRINK

HON. MARY JO KILROY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 25, 2010

Ms. KILROY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Nathan Elfrink, an energetic, passionate young man. Despite having spent most of his life fighting a brain tumor, Nate never let his illness diminish his thirst for adventure. He passed away at the age of seven on February 26, 2010. My heart goes out to

his family, friends, and all those who have been touched by Nate's kindness and bravery.

Nate never complained about his illness, the doctor's appointments, or the difficult treatments. Instead, he often asked his mom when he could go play on his way to appointments. He was a caring boy who would bake cookies for his teachers and friends. Nate was active in various community events around central Ohio and he led a group, known as "Nate's Mates," at a local Relay For Life to raise money for the American Cancer Society.

Nate's favorite holiday was Christmas. Last year, Nate's mother posted an online update about his condition and said that he would enjoy receiving Christmas cards. A subsequent Facebook group was initiated asking for one million Christmas cards for Nate. As cards poured in from all 50 states and 63 countries, the town of West Jefferson came together to open all the cards and read the most notable to Nate.

Nate always had a passion for sports and despite his worsening condition, Nate watched the entire Winter Olympics opening ceremony and enjoyed pointing out all the countries from which he received cards.

Nate enjoyed his life the best he could. His family plans to keep the cards Nate received and hold a Christmas in July celebration on what would have been Nate's eighth birthday. I am proud to honor Nate Elfrink for his courage and optimism throughout his illness; this inspirational member of our community will be sincerely missed.

RECOGNIZING JEFFREY BAUGUS AS THE HURLBURT AFA CHAPTER 398 MIDDLE SCHOOL TEACHER OF THE YEAR

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 25, 2010

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Jeffrey Baugus upon receiving the Hurlburt Air Force Association Chapter 398's Middle School Teacher of the Year Award for 2010. Mr. Baugus is an innovator and an inspiration to his students, and I am honored to venerate his achievement.

Jeff is an 8th Grade Math and Advanced Algebra 1 Honors Teacher at Woodlawn Beach Middle School in Santa Rosa County, in my district in Northwest Florida. In only his second year of educating, Jeff is rapidly becoming known as an innovative thinker. He uses real world techniques such as crime scene investigations, sports, and cooking to explore math concepts. Jeff also created an educational math blog entitled "Mr Bloggus' Mathlete Corner" for his Algebra students that contains video lessons on the skills learned in the classroom. The blog concept has proven so popular that other math courses in the school and throughout the school district have used Jeff's work as a model for their classrooms. Additionally, he introduced Google Sketchup into his math instruction, allowing his students to visualize three-dimensional objects manipulated live on the computer. For his innovation, Jeff received the 2009 Woodlawn Beach "Rookie of the Year" Award.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I am privileged to acknowledge Jeffrey Baugus as the Hurlburt AFA

Chapter 398 Middle School Teacher of the Year. He is a dedicated educator, an inspiration to his students, and an honorable public servant. Vicki and I wish Jeff and his family all the best for the future.

TRIBUTE TO ADALISSA ORTIZ

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 25, 2010

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize my constituent Adalissa Ortiz, of Marshalltown, Iowa, and congratulate her on her acceptance to the People to People World Leadership Forum held in Washington, D.C. from the 21st through the 26th of June 2010.

Chosen for her academic excellence, community involvement and leadership potential, this forum will provide Adalissa with daily leadership oriented curriculum, as well as allow her to visit the historic sights of Washington, D.C. and its surrounding areas.

The People to People Ambassador Programs, founded by President Eisenhower in 1956 to promote cross cultural and political understanding, currently operates on all seven continents, has over 400,000 alumni and provides students with the opportunity to learn and establish the necessary tools to become an effective leader.

Madam Speaker, I commend Adalissa Ortiz for her commitment to academic and personal development. She is a future leader of this country of whom Iowa is very proud. I am honored to represent Adalissa and her family in the United States Congress and I wish her the best in her future endeavors.

HONORING SUSIE LEVAN

HON. MARIO DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 25, 2010

Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor one of our community's most unique entrepreneurs, Susie Levan, who for years has been inspiring women in South Florida and beyond to achieve personal growth.

Susie is the founder of the Work-Life Balance Institute for Women and Balance Magazine, non-for-profit organizations that have been helping women in South Florida achieve a healthy balance between work and family life for more than ten years. "Health, wealth and happenings" are three guiding principles that Susie uses to empower women. She focuses on creating workshops, conferences, seminars, and forums to help women empower themselves and their families, lead better and healthier lives, and promote their businesses. She is also one of the hosts of Be(e) You Radio, a weekly radio program airing Sundays on 101.5 Lite FM in South Florida.

As we celebrate Women's History Month, I ask that you join me in thanking and congratulating Susie Levan for her success in motivating women to change their lives and her commitment to helping others.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RON KLEIN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 25, 2010

Mr. KLEIN of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to submit a record of how I would have voted on Sunday, March 21, 2010 when I was unavoidably detained. Had I voted, I would have voted "yes" on rollcall No. 159 and rollcall No. 168.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JERROLD NADLER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 25, 2010

Mr. NADLER of New York. Madam Speaker, due to other business, I missed votes on March 20, 2010. Had I been able to, I would have voted "no" on rollcall vote No. 148, an amendment offered by Mr. Bishop (UT); "aye" on rollcall vote No. 149, an amendment offered by Mr. Cole (OK); "aye" on rollcall vote No. 151, final passage of the Public Lands Service Corps Act of 2009; "aye" on rollcall vote No. 152, the TRICARE Affirmation Act; "aye" on rollcall vote No. 153, approving the Journal; and "aye" on rollcall vote No. 154, Honoring the Life and Accomplishments of Donald Harington.

TRIBUTE TO RYAN GUERRA

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 25, 2010

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize my constituent Ryan Guerra, of Perry, Iowa, and congratulate him on his acceptance to the People to People World Leadership Forum held in Washington, D.C. from the 21st through the 26th of June 2010.

Chosen for his academic excellence, community involvement and leadership potential, this forum will provide Ryan with daily leadership oriented curriculum, as well as allow him to visit the historic sights of Washington, D.C. and its surrounding areas.

The People to People Ambassador Programs, founded by President Eisenhower in 1956 to promote cross cultural and political understanding, currently operates on all seven continents, has over 400,000 alumni and provides students with the opportunity to learn and establish the necessary tools to become an effective leader.

Madam Speaker, I commend Ryan Guerra for his commitment to academic and personal development. He is a future leader of this country of whom Iowa is very proud. I am honored to represent Ryan and his family in the United States Congress and I wish him the best in his future endeavors.

HONORING DEANE BONNER

HON. PHIL GINGREY

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 25, 2010

Mr. GINGREY of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the dedication and years of service that Deane Bonner has provided for Cobb County. Since 1997, Ms. Bonner has served as the Cobb County NAACP President, and she has chosen to step down from that post at the end of the year.

On Friday, February 12, members of the Cobb County community gathered at Chattahoochee Technical College to present Ms. Bonner with the inaugural "Celebrating Diversity in Cobb County Award." In an outpouring of support, Ms. Bonner was praised by countless numbers of people for her kind spirit, generosity, and years of service to the community.

Madam Speaker, I can personally speak to Ms. Bonner's commitment to Cobb County. I am fortunate to be able to call her a friend, and I know how her hard work to improve the community has gained her a wealth of respect from everyone with whom she has served.

Madam Speaker, as Ms. Bonner steps away from the public spotlight at the end of the year, she will have very large—and difficult—shoes to fill. I would like to personally thank Ms. Bonner for her years of service to the NAACP and to Cobb County as a whole.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF HARLEM'S ICON, BROTHER CLAUDE A. SHARRIEFF FRAZIER, FONDLY KNOWN AS CHIEF FISCAL OFFICER OF WINDOWS OVER HARLEM AND THE HOST OF NEWS & VIEWS AT 9:30 A.M., WPAT RADIO

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 25, 2010

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker, I rise with the utmost humility, respect and admiration as I pay tribute to my dear friend, Brother Claude A. Sharrieff Frazier. As I speak with pride and honor for my friend Sharrieff, I ask us all to celebrate a life that was lived to the fullest and also to remember his love for life and community involvement and all the remarkable contributions he made to Harlem.

Claude Sharrieff Frazier, a veteran of World War II, a scholar, and one of Harlem's devoted townsmen and radio personalities, was born in Harlem, New York on December 13, 1925. He was raised from infancy by his grandmother, a native of Jamaica, a stern disciplinarian and a member of the historic St. Philip's Church at 134th Street in Harlem and also by his grandfather who was a respected elder of St. Mark's United Methodist Church. He was reared and obtained his primary and secondary education in Harlem. He spent most of his childhood and adolescent years in St. Philip's learning about history and culture from the priests, curates, deacons, and lay readers. In the early 1960's, he visited Mosque No. 7 and shortly thereafter accepted the teaching and leadership of the Honorable Elijah Muhammad.

Brother Claude Sharrieff, a well known Harlem icon served his Nation during World War II at the age of 16 with the mighty 784th Black Battalion Tank Unit. Proud and active, Claude dedicated his life-work to celebrating and supporting the contributions and sacrifices made by Black Veterans of all wars. He was a life member of the fighting 369th Harlem Hellfighters, the Colonel Charles Young American Legion Post 398 and the 784th Tank Battalion Association, Inc., to name just a few. I always look forward to participating in his regular annual salute to veterans that occurs each and every year at his beloved Windows Over Harlem Restaurant and Catering establishment.

Upon his return after World War II, Claude enrolled in and eventually graduated from College of New Rochelle with a Bachelor's in Arts in Social Science degree. He went on to hold the position of Deputy Director for the Institute for Mediation and Conflict Resolution, eventually also earning a Paralegal Certificate from Bronx Community College in 1987.

Claude loved his beloved Harlem and contributed greatly to many important historic episodes of this world renowned community. From the early days of the struggle for the right to own and work in businesses along 125th Street to the rise of Black Nationalism and Islam, Claude Sharrieff bore witness and stood on the front line. So proud of his military achievements and African heritage, Claude's discipline led him to Mosque No. 7 and the teachings of the Honorable Elijah Muhammad. As a servant of Allah, he was so proud when he was able to bring Windows Over Harlem to the community of Harlem, especially housed in the building of his beloved idol and close friend, Congressman Adam Clayton Powell, Jr. Sharrieff also rendered bookkeeping and tax services to small businesses in the Harlem community.

Windows became an international gathering place where he catered to many luminaries, entertainers and personalities like me. He also used Windows to host News & Views at 9:30 a.m. on WPAT Radio, for 11 years, keeping the community informed by tackling issues that affected New York City as a whole and Harlem in particular. Claude used Window's to embrace the entire African Diaspora from the Middle East, North, West, Central and southern regions of the continent to the shores of our great Nation. His Windows Over Harlem bridged and united communities from West Africa to Asia, becoming a place where you could express who you are, where you come from and gain employment.

Sharrieff spent the last years of his life as the Chief Fiscal Officer for Windows Over Harlem Restaurant and Catering. Windows Over Harlem was his dream come true as it allowed him to serve and cater to the people of Harlem, in the spirit of his great idol and close personal friend. Sharrieff would sometimes say, "We're doing what Adam would want to see done in Harlem." Even in hard times and doubting moments, he would remain unfazed, sidestepping worries with a simple, "I have a plan."

Claude Sharrieff Frazier was also an active member in the Harlem Republican Club, where he eventually became President, yet he never wavered in his support for me. On Friday, March 19th, 2010, Sharrieff was called home to Allah after a short illness. He will be remembered in a very special Harlem world

salute on Thursday, March 25, 2010 at his grandfather's beloved landmark, St. Mark's United Methodist Church in Harlem.

Madam Speaker. I consider myself fortunate to have had the opportunity to observe and experience his example as a personal inspiration. Though Sharrieff is no longer with us, his memory will remain alive in our hearts and minds behind a great written legacy summed up in his own words: "Freedom of Spirit and the interaction with humanity remain my focus in life. I love the history of our ancestors for their sacrifices and the contributions that they made towards the growth and development of America, even during slavery and unto this day."

We are all blessed to have known Claude A. Sharrieff Frazier, a titan of a man who gave us all life.

TRIBUTE TO MORGAN SMITH

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 25, 2010

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize my constituent Morgan Smith, of Nevada, Iowa, and congratulate her on her acceptance to the People to People World Leadership Forum held in Washington, D.C. from the 21st through the 26th of June 2010.

Chosen for her academic excellence, community involvement and leadership potential, this forum will provide Morgan with daily leadership oriented curriculum, as well as allow her to visit the historic sights of Washington, D.C. and its surrounding areas.

The People to People Ambassador Programs, founded by President Eisenhower in 1956 to promote cross cultural and political understanding, currently operates on all seven continents, has over 400,000 alumni and provides students with the opportunity to learn and establish the necessary tools to become an effective leader.

Madam Speaker, I commend Morgan Smith for her commitment to academic and personal development. She is a future leader of this country of whom Iowa is very proud. I am honored to represent Morgan and her family in the United States Congress and I wish her the best in her future endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO MR. RANDY YARNOLD

HON. MARION BERRY

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 25, 2010

Mr. BERRY. Madam Speaker, I rise here today to pay tribute to Randy Yarnold. His accomplishments are numerous, but his service to the students of Wynne High School and the community of Wynne over the past four decades is what warrants our recognition and our thanks today.

Randall Mitchell Yarnold was born in Malvern, Arkansas on March 8, 1948, the second of four children of Clyde and Velma Yarnold. In 1966, he graduated as commencement speaker from Malvern High and enrolled at Henderson State University, where he graduated with a BSE in Speech and Debate four

years later. That fall, he began his teaching career at Wynne High School. Sponsorship of the Drama Club was included in his duties, and so began a legacy that would lead him to direct 60 plays and touch thousands of lives over his 40-year career.

Yarnold is retiring from his profession after having taught over 13,000 students in the classroom, including every graduating student at Wynne High School since 1994. He also served as the voice of Yellowjacket football as the school's stadium announcer. Between 1975 and 2006, he never missed a home game, and due in part to his personality, Yellowjacket Stadium was named the fourth best place to see an Arkansas high school football game.

His patient guidance and passion for theatre have inspired many of his students to pursue successful careers on stage over the years, while his contagious enthusiasm for all the things he did—teaching, directing, and community service—moved many of his peers, including his creative partner, Ms. Sherry Phillians, to volunteer their time towards achieving whatever goal he pursued.

Yarnold is truly devoted to his students—supporting them at games, recitals, and pep rallies. It is his dedication to his home, however, that moves me to speak today. The values of service to others and commitment to community are rarely seen with such distinction and dedication. His impact was good and great. On behalf of the United States Congress I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating and honoring the lifetime and career achievements of Randy Yarnold.

DR. FRANK S. GREENE, JR.

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 25, 2010

Ms. LEE of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the extraordinary life of Dr. Frank S. Greene, Jr., technology professional, electrical engineer, venture capitalist, entrepreneur, philanthropist, parent, grandparent and friend. With his passing, December 26, 2009, at the age of 71, we are reminded of his life's journey, his prolific career and the joyful legacy he has inspired.

Dr. Greene was born on October 19, 1938, in Washington, DC, to Frank S. Green, Sr. and Irma Olivia Swygert. He was raised in St. Louis, Missouri, where, in 1961, he became one of the first African-American students to graduate from Washington University. He was also among the first cohort of black students to complete the university's U.S. Air Force ROTC Program, and was ultimately promoted to the rank of Air Force Captain, helping to develop high performance computers for the National Security Agency.

An avid and industrious scholar, Dr. Greene earned a master's degree in electrical engineering from Purdue University, and his Ph.D. from Santa Clara University, where he was later elected as the first African-American Trustee. As Dr. Greene began a career in the private sector, he maintained close ties to academia and academic pursuits, teaching university courses in electrical engineering and computer science at prestigious universities across the country.

In 1965, Dr. Greene joined a research and development team at Fairchild Semiconductor that won the fastest memory chip design patent of the time. In 1971, he founded Technology Development Corporation, a fast-growing computer software and technical services company, which led to the founding of ZeroOne Systems in 1985. In 1993, he co-founded New Vista Capital, a venture capital firm that specialized in funding women-owned and minority-owned businesses. Throughout his career, Dr. Greene earned many accolades, including receiving Washington University's Black Alumni Achievement Award, Santa Clara University's Distinguished Engineering Alumni Award, Purdue University's Outstanding Electrical and Computer Engineer Award, and, in 2002, induction as the first African American into the Silicon Valley Engineering Hall of Fame.

All the while, Dr. Greene kept in mind the critical importance of instilling in youth a love of learning and an indomitable belief in the ability to succeed. He began the GO-Positive Foundation to encourage life skills through, "Vision, Relationships, and Execution," with his VRE Leadership Model. Additionally, the Dr. Frank S. Greene Scholars Program is a science, technology, engineering and math initiative contributing to the academic success of African-American students. He was also an active member of many local organizations.

I met Dr. Greene years ago while working on the former congressional staff for current mayor, Ron Dellums. Dr. Greene was always a kind and forthright man whose business acumen impressed me tremendously. We worked on many business issues together and, as an elected official, I enjoyed his gracious and consistent support over the years. Frank did so much for young people in the Bay Area and beyond. He was a good friend, and I will miss him.

Today, California's 9th Congressional District salutes and honors a wonderful human being, Dr. Frank S. Greene, Jr. Our community is indebted to his life's contribution in countless ways. Dr. Greene was truly a great man and he will be deeply missed by an extended group of family, friends and loved ones. May his soul rest in peace.

TRIBUTE TO BALLARD JUNIOR AND SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 25, 2010

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate students at Ballard Junior and Senior High School in Ballard, Iowa, for their efforts in raising money for St. Damien Hospital, the only free pediatric hospital in Haiti.

St. Damien Hospital is facing many struggles with the devastation caused by the earthquake in Haiti. Jeriann McLaughlin, the service/mentoring/tutoring coordinator at Ballard Junior and Senior High, learned of the struggles from Annie Kautza, who is a native of Iowa and the regional medical coordinator for NPH International, who runs St. Damien. Annie explained the severe structural damage the hospital sustained during the earthquake and the need for financial assistance to get

back to business as usual and serve the additional children in need of care.

Jeriann initiated a fun and competitive fundraising project called "Penny War" which took place for one week in February. This school-wide contest was implemented to see which advisor group could collect the most pennies. Containers for each advisor group were filled with pennies, and students could add other coins and dollar bills to their opposing advisor groups' to reduce that group's overall penny count in the Penny War competition. The advisor group with the highest penny credit and the group raising the most money earned a pizza party. In total, the Penny War raised over \$2000.00, and the National Honor Society raised an additional \$121.00.

This collective effort at Ballard Junior and Senior High School is characteristic of what Iowa is all about—citizens motivated and dedicated to improving the daily life of people in need. I commend all the students, their families, and especially Jeriann McLaughlin who generated this heartwarming effort. I consider it an honor to represent Jeriann and all of those involved in the Penny War in the United States Congress and again I congratulate them for their great act of kindness and charity.

HONORING CHRISTIANE LEE FOR WINNING THE LESSONS OF THE AFRICAN-AMERICAN EXPERIENCE WRITING CONTEST

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 25, 2010

Mr. COURTNEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Christiane Lee as a winner of the first annual "Lessons of the African-American Experience" Creative Writing Contest. Christiane is currently in the eighth grade at Vernon Center Middle School, which is located in Vernon, Connecticut.

In celebration of Black History Month, I sponsored a creative writing contest for all third through eighth grade students within the Second District. As we know, Black History Month is a time to reflect on the struggles and triumphs of our nation's past. The lessons learned during this month continue to serve as the stepping stones of our nation's future. Christiane's essay "Facing History with Courage" eloquently embraces this belief.

Christiane's essay shows a remarkable enthusiasm for learning that is inspiring to all. She identified the values that she learned during Black History Month and creatively discussed how those values affect her life and the lives of others. For this, her essay was among the four winners selected.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. J. GRESHAM BARRETT

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 25, 2010

Mr. BARRETT of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, unfortunately, I missed the following recorded votes on the House floor the week of Monday, March 15, 2010.

For Monday, March 15, 2010, had I been present I would have voted "aye" on rollcall vote No. 112 (on motion to suspend the rules and agree to H. Res. 1145), "aye" on rollcall vote No. 113 (on motion to suspend the rules and agree to H. Res. 1170), "aye" on rollcall vote No. 114 (on motion to suspend the rules and agree to H. Res. 1163), "aye" on rollcall vote No. 115 (on motion to suspend the rules and agree to H. Res. 267).

For Tuesday, March 16, 2010, had I been present I would have voted "aye" on rollcall vote No. 116 (on motion to suspend the rules and agree to H.R. 4628), "aye" on rollcall vote No. 117 (on motion to suspend the rules and agree to H. Res. 311), "aye" on rollcall vote No. 118 (on motion to suspend the rules and agree to H. Res. 605), "aye" on rollcall vote No. 119 (on motion to suspend the rules and agree to H. Res. 1128).

For Wednesday, March 17, 2010, had I been present I would have voted "aye" on rollcall vote No. 120 (on motion to suspend the rules and agree to H. Res. 1089), "aye" on rollcall vote No. 121 (on motion to suspend the rules and agree to H. Res. 1167), "no" on rollcall vote No. 122 (on motion to suspend the rules and agree to H. Res. 1184), "aye" on rollcall vote No. 123 (on motion to suspend the rules and agree to H. Res. 1141), "aye" on rollcall vote No. 124 (on motion to suspend the rules and agree to S. 1147), "aye" on rollcall vote No. 125 (on motion to suspend the rules and agree to H.R. 3954), "aye" on rollcall vote No. 126 (on motion to suspend the rules and agree to H.R. 946), "aye" on rollcall vote No. 127 (on motion to suspend the rules and agree to H.R. 4825).

For Thursday, March 18, 2010, had I been present I would have voted "aye" on rollcall vote No. 131 (on motion to refer H. Res. 1193, raising a question of the privileges of the House), "no" on rollcall vote No. 132 (on motion to table H. Res. 1193, raising a question of the privileges of the House), "aye" on rollcall vote No. 133 (on motion to suspend the rules and agree to H.R. 3542), "aye" on rollcall vote No. 134 (on motion to suspend the rules and agree to H.R. 3509), "aye" on rollcall vote No. 135 (on motion to suspend the rules and agree to H. Res. 1173).

TRIBUTE TO COLLINS-MAXWELL HIGH SCHOOL AND MIDDLE SCHOOL

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 25, 2010

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate the students at Collins-Maxwell High School and Middle School in Central Iowa for their efforts in raising money to help those devastated by the earthquake in Haiti.

Lanie Crouse, president of the high school student council, and student council members Josh Benton and Jameson Hudson implemented a plan to raise money for the Story County Chapter of the American Red Cross for relief in Haiti by selling T-shirts. The more than 240 T-shirts sold have a Haitian-style design with their school Raider logo. In addition, the middle school students organized a coin drive which raised \$242. Local community

members also chipped in with monetary contributions. This entire fundraising relief effort raised a grand total of over \$1,700.

This collective effort at Collins-Maxwell High School and Middle School is characteristic of what Iowa is all about—citizens motivated and dedicated to improving the daily life of people in need, and in this case those who have lost everything. I commend Lanie Crouse, Josh Benton, Jameson Hudson, and all the students and community members who participated in this fundraiser, as well as Jessica Allen, the school counselor, who facilitated this heartwarming effort. I consider it an honor to represent all of those at Collins-Maxwell Schools involved in this great act of kindness and charity on behalf of Haiti in the United States Congress and again I congratulate them on their successful efforts.

HONORING THE NATIONAL URBAN LEAGUE

HON. ALBIO SIREs

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 25, 2010

Mr. SIREs. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the National Urban League and celebrate their 100 years of service. Since 1910, the National Urban League has grown to have more than 100 affiliates in 36 states and the District of Columbia. Their work impacts the lives of more than 2 million across the nation and I applaud their contributions in fighting for historically underserved urban communities.

In my district, which is 100 percent urban, there are active National Urban League affiliates who work hard to provide vital sources such as delivering social services and programs. New Jersey's 13th Congressional district is incredibly diverse and is made up of 47.6 percent Latinos, 12.8 percent African Americans, and 5.6 percent Asians. Among my constituents, 39.6 percent are foreign born, and this diversity enriches our communities. Through the hard work of the National Urban League, many of my constituents are becoming empowered to gain better access to education, employment, housing, and health care.

The 100th Anniversary of the National Urban League also coincides with the publication of their 34th edition of *The State of Black America*. This riveting report features contributions from our nation's brightest scholars, politicians, and professionals and demonstrates just how severely our urban and minority communities are being impacted in the areas of economics, education, health, civic engagement, and social justice. For the very first time, *The State of Black America*, included a Hispanic index. In the report, an Equality Index of 100 percent would signify that minorities are on par with Caucasians; however, this report found that African-Americans received an overall Equality Index of 71.8 percent and Hispanics received an overall score of 75.5 percent. Clearly, there is more progress to be made.

The area of economics represents the greatest disparity between minorities and whites, and the unemployment statistics were the most disconcerting. In 2009, African-American unemployment was 14.8 percent, Hispanic unemployment was 12.1 percent, and white unemployment was 8.5 percent. Further,

for adult black men, the unemployment rate was 17.8 percent as compared to 8.8 percent for white men. For adult black women, the unemployment rate is 12.1 percent as compared to 7.3 percent for white women. The high rate of national unemployment is impacting all Americans, but is having a particularly devastating effect on African-Americans.

In an effort to combat these sobering numbers, the National Urban League introduced The National Urban League's Plan for Putting America Back to Work. This six point plan targets \$168 billion in spending over two years through: (1) direct create job creation, (2) expansion of the Youth Summer Jobs program, (3) creation of urban jobs academies, (4) creation of green empowerment zones, (5) expansion of the hiring of housing counselors nationwide, and (6) expansion of the Small Business Administration's Community Express Loan Program. Together, these recommendations will address the jobs crisis that our urban communities are facing. The National Urban League's Centennial initiative is, "I AM EMPOWERED," and sets a goal for every American to achieve access to a quality job which includes a living wage and good benefits by 2025. Let us all work together and make this goal a reality.

Madam Speaker, I applaud the National Urban League for their dedication in serving our communities and ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing their 100 years of achievements.

IN RECOGNITION OF WORLD TB DAY

HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 25, 2010

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the importance of World TB Day. Tuberculosis is the second leading global infectious disease killer behind HIV/AIDS, claiming approximately 1.8 million lives each year. It is estimated that 1/3 of the world's population is infected with TB. This disease kills people of all races and ages around the world.

The global TB pandemic and spread of drug resistant TB presents a persistent public health threat to the U.S. The WHO reports that 5 percent of all new TB cases are drug resistant, with estimates of up to 28 percent drug resistant reported in some parts of Russia. Of these numbers, it is estimated that only 7 percent are receiving treatment.

Although drugs, diagnostics and vaccines for TB exist, these technologies are antiquated and are increasingly inadequate for controlling the global epidemic. The most commonly used TB diagnostic in the world, sputum microscopy, is more than 100 years old and lacks sensitivity to detect TB in most HIV/AIDS patients and in children.

Drug susceptibility tests for drug resistant TB take 2–4 weeks to complete, during which time a drug resistant TB patient in a developing country may die. The TB vaccine, BCG, provides some protection to children, but has little or no efficacy in preventing pulmonary TB in adults. We will never be able to defeat TB without the introduction of new identification, treatment and prevention tools.

World TB Day provides us with an opportunity to celebrate the significant gains made in the fight against TB and reminds of us the challenges ahead. Since 1995, 36 million people around the world have successfully been treated for TB and 9 million lives have been saved.

Less than 2 years ago, this Congress passed two historic laws to combat TB. The Comprehensive TB Elimination Act authorizes the tools to put the U.S. on the path to TB elimination and the Lantos-Hyde Act, with multi-lateral commitment, aims to reduce the global TB burden by half within a decade.

Both of these laws would support an increased research investment to get us the new TB diagnostic, treatment and prevention tools that we urgently need. With enactment of these 2 laws, we have the power to combat TB effectively and reduce the human misery that this disease wreaks around the world.

I urge my colleagues to work with me and our colleagues on the Appropriations Committee to fully fund these measures.

HONORING NATALIE MYERSON

HON. LOIS CAPPS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 25, 2010

Mrs. CAPPS. Madam Speaker, today I rise to honor Natalie Myerson, an exceptional woman and a dear friend.

Born in Chelsea, Massachusetts, in 1920, Natalie Anita Salter grew up in nearby Newton, MA and attended Goucher College in Baltimore, MD. In the fall of 1942, she was introduced to Raymond King Myerson, who was a naval officer stationed in Cambridge. After a brief courtship, Natalie and Raymond were married on February 20, 1943. They had 63 wonderful years together until Raymond's death in 2006.

While Raymond was in the Navy during World War II, Natalie lived with his parents in Chicago. When Raymond returned from the war in 1945, the young couple moved into their own apartment in Chicago. Their daughter Bette Kay was born in 1946, and 3 years after that, in 1949, son Toby came along. Shortly after Toby's birth the family moved to Highland Park, Illinois where they lived for 15 years. In Highland Park Natalie was an active volunteer with the Brandeis National Women's Committee, Hadassah, and a number of other organizations.

On July 4, 1964 the family moved to Los Angeles and in 1974 came to Santa Barbara. Natalie has lived longer in Santa Barbara than any other city; she and Raymond became very active members of the community. Natalie served on the Board of Directors and was treasurer of the Santa Barbara Symphony for many years. She and Raymond were great supporters of the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith. They were honored at the ADL annual dinner in 2001.

Natalie has also served on the Advisory Board of the Hillel Foundation of the University of California, Santa Barbara. Natalie and Raymond were honored by that organization in 2006. They were also involved with the Affiliates of University of California, Santa Barbara. Natalie was an active member of the Santa Barbara Arts Council for many years. She is

currently one of the mainstays and most loyal and celebrated members of Santa Barbara's Congregation B'nai B'rith. Natalie was honored as a "Woman of Valor" by the Women's Division of the Santa Barbara Jewish Federation in 2009.

Natalie is the matriarch of the Myerson and Salter families and is most beloved by her family. In addition, she has "adopted" 39 "courtesy daughters" who consider her their second mother.

Natalie is sought after as a speaker, emcee, and presenter. She is an elegant, beautifully dressed, kind, and caring woman, and a gracious hostess. I can speak with authority that it is a privilege to call her a friend. Natalie is an instrumental pillar of our central coast community, and I'm humbled to honor her this month as she celebrates her 90th birthday. I wish her continued good health!

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JEFF FORTENBERRY

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 25, 2010

Mr. FORTENBERRY. Madam Speaker, on Friday, March 19, and Saturday, March 20, 2010, I was absent due to family obligations and thus I missed rollcall votes Nos. 136 through 154. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on Nos. 137, 138, 139, 141, 143, 144, 145, 146, 147, 148, 149, 150, 151, 152, and 154 and "nay" on Nos. 136, 140, 142, and 153.

TRIBUTE TO PAGE AND LINCOLN ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 25, 2010

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate the students at Page and Lincoln elementary schools in Boone, Iowa, for their efforts in raising money to help those devastated by the earthquake in Haiti.

The devastation in Haiti hit close to home for Page Elementary kindergarten teacher Heidi McPartland. In 2009 she traveled to Haiti for a mission trip to assist in painting and completing work on a medical facility. Heidi put her heart and compassion into motion by initiating a "Hearts for Haiti" fundraising project to help the American Red Cross's relief efforts. During the entire month of February, students at Page and Lincoln elementary schools raised money for this humanitarian cause. Not only did it raise money for people in need, but it taught the children the importance of caring for others and how their efforts can really benefit those who are less fortunate.

This collective effort at Lincoln and Page elementary schools is a characteristic of what Iowa is all about—citizens motivated and dedicated to improving the daily life of people in need, and in this case those who have lost everything. I commend all the students, their families and especially Heidi McPartland, who generated this heartwarming effort. I consider

it an honor to represent Heidi and all of those involved in this mission for Haiti in the United States Congress and again I congratulate them for their great act of kindness and charity.

HONORING ANGELA BRUSCATO

HON. RODNEY ALEXANDER

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 25, 2010

Mr. ALEXANDER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and recognize Angela Bruscato for 35 years of volunteer service to St. Francis Medical Center. Angie has continually demonstrated the mission of St. Francis Medical Center through her commitment to reaching out to others in their time of need. She has brought comfort and hope to patients and their families with her sincere concern for their welfare.

Angie joined the St. Francis Medical Center volunteer program in May of 1975, and as of March 17, 2010, she has volunteered 19,696 hours of service. With her many talents, Angie has held many positions as a volunteer and on the Auxiliary Executive Board, and has helped raise \$450,000 to benefit the health care facility.

Angie is a shining example of how one person can change the world for many. Justly, Angie has been recognized for her caring service over the years. In 1990, she was awarded the Auxilian of the Year. In 1993, St. Francis Medical Center awarded her a Certificate of Merit for Dedicated Auxiliary Service. In 2004, she received the Volunteer of the Year award.

I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Angela Bruscato. This truly amazing and selfless individual has continued to bring joy to the patients and employees of the St. Francis Medical Center for 35 years.

24TH ANNIVERSARY OF BROTHERS' KEEPER

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 25, 2010

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Madam Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I stand before you to recognize one of Northwest Indiana's most generous and valued organizations, Brothers' Keeper, Incorporated. Brothers' Keeper, a non-profit organization located in Gary, Indiana, celebrates its twenty-fourth anniversary this month. In honor of its anniversary, a celebratory banquet, which will also help raise funds for the continued operation of Brothers' Keeper, will take place on Thursday, March 25, 2010, at the Genesis Convention Center in Gary, Indiana.

The anniversary banquet will feature a keynote speech by Harry Porterfield, who is well known in Chicago media and is the creator and host of "People You Should Know." The banquet will also feature the inspirational music of The Winslett Family Singers.

Founded by the late Reverend James Anderson of Washington Street Church of God on March 16, 1986, Brothers' Keeper is the

oldest and only full service men's homeless shelter in Northwest Indiana. Throughout the years, thousands of lives have been improved through the many services and programs offered by Brothers' Keeper. Brothers' Keeper offers not only food, clothing, and shelter to the men it serves, but also counseling services, information and referral services, job placement assistance, and weekly motivational sessions, as well as a new computer room for members of the community to utilize.

While many people have benefited from these services and from the generosity of the Brothers' Keeper staff, the organization has also made extraordinary efforts to reach out to the surrounding community. In addition to the services offered at the shelter, Brothers' Keeper also operates a soup kitchen, food pantry, clothing bank, recycling program, community service work site, and a senior aid work site.

Madam Speaker, at this time, I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in recognizing the tireless efforts of Brothers' Keeper's Executive Director, Mary Edwards, and the many staff members and volunteers whose generosity and selflessness have touched thousands of lives throughout the last twenty-four years. Their efforts are to be commended, and they are to be honored for their unwavering commitment to their community.

HONORING THE LIFE OF DEAMONTE DRIVER AND CHILDREN'S DENTAL HEALTH MONTH

HON. ELIJAH E. CUMMINGS

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 25, 2010

Mr. CUMMINGS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life of a young Maryland boy, Deamonte Driver, whose life was cut drastically short when an untreated tooth infection spread to his brain. I also rise to recognize Children's Dental Health Month with hope in my heart and a renewed steadfast commitment to ensuring that all children across this great nation will have access to quality dental healthcare.

Deamonte's tragic death haunts me to this day.

Eighty dollars worth of dental care might have saved his life, but he never got that care.

As many of you know, I have made it my personal mission to ensure that from this boy's untimely death, we will bring hope and life.

With the passage of the Children's Health Insurance Program Reauthorization Act of 2009 (H.R. 2/PL 111-3) and the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (H.R. 1/PL 111-5), we have made significant progress to provide dental care to children.

Notably, the SCHIP Reauthorization mandated for the first time that children eligible for the program receive dental coverage.

It also included several critical provisions aimed at improving children's access to dental care, each of which was included in a bill I introduced, H.R. 462, the Medicaid-SCHIP Dental Benefits Improvement Act of 2009.

Specifically the bill:

Guarantees a dental benefit for children covered by SCHIP that includes preventive, restorative, and emergency dental care;

Provides dental education for parents of newborns;

Allows community health centers to contract with private dentists for the purpose of providing dental care under Medicaid and SCHIP; Requires states to report the status of children's oral health for children covered by Medicaid and SCHIP;

Improves access to dental provider information for Medicaid and SCHIP patients through the Insure Kids Now website (www.insurekidsnow.gov) and hotline (1-877-KIDS-NOW);

Requires the GAO to conduct a study assessing children's access to dental care within 18 months of the bill's enactment; and

Directs the Secretary of Health and Human Services to establish a core set of child health quality measures for assessing states' Medicaid and SCHIP programs, including measures for the availability of dental services and the quality of pediatric dental care.

I was also extremely pleased that we included language in the bill to provide "wrap around" dental benefits to children who are eligible for SCHIP but have private medical insurance that does not include dental insurance.

The Recovery Act included an estimated \$87 billion over two years in additional federal matching funds to help states maintain their Medicaid programs which provide dental health services to low-income children.

I rise today with a renewed commitment to oral health which is an integral component of overall health.

Hundreds of thousands of Deamonte Drivers are walking the streets of America every day in unbearable pain—unable to concentrate in school, unable to eat and speak properly, and at risk for serious disease or even death.

We simply cannot relent until every single one of those children gets the care he or she needs to end this needless suffering—and to prevent it in future generations.

During Children's Dental Health Month, I thank the many partners who have joined me in this effort, specifically the Children's Dental Health Project, the American Dental Association, the National Dental Association, the American Academy of Pediatric Dentists, the American Dental Education Association, the American Hygienists Association, and the UnitedHealth Group.

It is through sound legislative initiatives and partnerships like these that give me hope:

Hope that we can prevent the single most common childhood chronic disease which is tooth decay.

Hope that our children, regardless of race or economic status will have access to proper dental care.

Hope that as we pledge never to forget the life of Deamonte Driver, we strive to ensure that not one more child will suffer his fate.

RECOGNIZING THE CUB SCOUT PACK 1364 BLUE AND GOLD BANQUET

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 25, 2010

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 2010 Blue and Gold Banquet for Cub Scout Pack 1364 and the 100th anniversary of the Boy Scouts of America.

The Boy Scouts were founded in the United States on February 8, 1910, by William D. Boyce. The following year, the Boy Scouts of America adopted the Scout Oath and the Scout Law. After 100 years of scouting, these founding principles have guided more than 100 million youth to be trustworthy, loyal, helpful, friendly, courteous, kind, obedient, cheerful, thrifty, brave, clean and reverent.

Each year, Cub Scout packs commemorate scouting and its enduring principles with a Blue and Gold Banquet. They celebrate scouts, pack leaders and other adults who have contributed to the pack's health and vibrancy. I would like to extend my personal congratulations to the following Cub Scouts in Pack 1364 who will be recognized at the 2010 Blue and Gold Banquet for advancing to the next level of scouting.

Den 2 Tigers: Michael Chargualaf, Beau Donner, Michael Mottern, Samuel Neher, Kage Policello, Tony Simmons, Terrell Warner, Ki Williams;

Den 3 Tigers: Brian Andres, Leo Blaes, Tyler Lipscomb, Andrew Martin, Justin Santaw, Luke Smallwood;

Den 6 Wolves: Nick Bradford, Erik Caballero, Jacob Chesonis, Benjamin Clark, Liam Dunlap, Joshua Forrest, Jason Green, Colin Meeley, Ahmed Mohammed, Isaac Morlu, Joseph Peters, Kieran Weldon;

Den 5 Bears: Adam Frank, Andrew Hartshorn, Benjamin Hodges, Brian Kim, Logan MacDonald, Justin Martis, Henry Moore, Brett Segal, Daniel Smith, Michael Teister, Nathan Villanueva, Malik Williams, Sean Zylich;

Den 1 Webelos I: Archie Blaes, Jacob Chartier, Matthew Kaiser, Jordan Rice, Zack Scites, Michael Storm, Sebastian Villanueva;

Den 7 Webelos I: DeTrell Bailey, Will Salmon, Derek Siegrist, Alex Stone, Sean Teister, Norman Warner;

Den 4, Webelos II: Grayden Brock, Ryan Crow, Joseph Friend, Caven Kennedy, Jimmy Kettl, Christian Majchrowitz, Andrew Perkins-McDuffie, Michael Stroup.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in celebrating the Boy Scouts of America on its 100th anniversary and recognizing Cub Scout Pack 1364. The Boy Scouts of America sets a high standard for integrity and strength of character. I admire all scouts who seek to uphold its core principles, and I extend my best wishes to the Cub Scouts of Pack 1364 as they strive to realize their scouting potential.

CELEBRATING THE INSTALLATION OF REV. KEVIN WILLIAMS AS PASTOR IN THE SECOND BAPTIST CHURCH OF WHEATON

HON. PETER J. ROSKAM

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 25, 2010

Mr. ROSKAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Reverend Kevin Williams, who has been installed as a new Pastor in the Second Baptist Church of Wheaton, which is located in my Congressional district.

The Second Baptist Church is the oldest African American Church in DuPage County. Ever since it opened its doors to worshippers in 1907, this church has worked diligently to

glorify God, build up the saved, and win the lost. Through private and collective study groups, as well as public preaching, the Second Baptist Church has strengthened our community by bringing people together through faith.

Reverend Williams is a loving husband and father. He believes that his greatest privilege and joy has been to share the grace of God with others. From the early age of 27, he has used his talents and gifts to spread the glory of God and help congregants of the Second Baptist Church experience the love of Jesus.

Madam Speaker and Distinguished Colleagues, please join me in recognizing the installation of the Reverend Kevin Williams as Pastor of the Second Baptist Church of Wheaton. I believe that Reverend Williams will bring people together in faith and fellowship and help make our local communities a wonderful place to live, work, and raise a family.

HONORING CARNEGIE MEDAL RECIPIENT, DEREK CREEL

HON. SPENCER BACHUS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 25, 2010

Mr. BACHUS. Madam Speaker, it is an honor to bring to the attention of my colleagues the heroism of a constituent, Derek J. Creel of Warrior, Alabama. Guided by his faith, Derek put his own life at risk to save the life of a young child during a tragic outing on raging waters.

In recognition of his courageous and selfless action, Derek has been awarded the Carnegie Medal by the Carnegie Hero Fund Commission.

The criteria for this prestigious award was established by the philanthropist Andrew Carnegie in 1904, when he wrote on the Commission's founding Deed of Trust that, "We live in a heroic age. Not seldom are we thrilled by deeds of heroism where men or women are injured or lose their lives in attempting to preserve or rescue their fellows."

Derek Creel displayed extraordinary heroism in swimming to a father and son who had been overtaken by a strong current in the Black Warrior River on March 27, 2009. Excruciatingly, he could not save the father from the cold and swift waters. But he both saved and comforted the frightened young boy while rescue help arrived. Derek's spiritual strength was every bit as important to their survival during that challenging time as his physical strength.

Warrior Police Chief Raymond Horn, who was at the scene, wrote a gripping account of Derek's heroism in nominating him for the Carnegie Medal. It is a description of an exceptional action by a prayerful man that I commend to your reading.

On 03/27/09 the Warrior River, Locust Branch, was well above normal depth from recent rain storms. The currents were very strong and swift with a lot of debris, i.e., stumps, trees and rocks in this river. There were more storms moving into the area later that night with flash flood warnings being posted.

The rescuer, Derek Creel, was at the river fishing. He witnessed a canoe, with an adult male and a male child, capsized. The two victims were caught in the swift currents and very

rapidly being pulled down stream while holding onto the canoe. At this point Derek Creel with total disregard for his own life or safety jumped into the cold water and swam towards the victims. After reaching the victims and the canoe he attempted to get them to the shore, but the currents were too strong and they were washed down river about half a mile from the boat launch.

At this point Derek was able to steer the canoe into a downed tree in the river. He then had to physically hold onto both victims. He soon became exhausted and had to make a very difficult decision. Let one victim go and save the child and himself. The father, Tim Sagafoose was injured and was unable to help or respond. Derek was unable to hold onto the father any longer and turned him loose into the current. Derek then had to calm the young boy and explain what he had to just do. He had the presence of mind to witness to the young boy about God and salvation, all while holding onto him in the cold swift water for over for over thirty minutes before they were rescued by Warrior Firefighters Lee Kilgore and Luke Ahl.

I personally spoke with Derek at the scene and he was visibly shaken, and extremely apologetic about not being able to save the father. And he was very humble about his rescue efforts on this night.

After days of refusing media interviews, he finally did an interview on the day Tim Sagafoose's body was recovered. During this interview, Derek credited his actions to God and his Savior Jesus Christ for putting him there that day and giving him the strength to hold on.

After 34 years of Law Enforcement experience I walked away from this incident with not only amazement at the actions of Derek Creel, but true respect for him. He is a remarkable young man with strength and conviction and truly humble demeanor. I am very proud of Derek for not only his heroism, but his witness of the Lord in this difficult moment. He is truly a hero in my opinion in more ways than one.

In closing, I congratulate Derek and the entire Creel family.

TRIBUTE TO JEFFREY SPEARS, ON RECEIVING THE RABBI NORMAN F. FELDHEYM AWARD FOR LOYALTY AND SERVICE TO THE SYNAGOGUE AND COMMUNITY OF THE CONGREGATION EMANU EL

HON. JOE BACA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 25, 2010

Mr. BACA. Madam Speaker, the Rabbi Norman F. Feldheim Award was established to pay tribute to those members of Congregation Emanu El, who have conspicuously and exceptionally reflected Rabbi Feldheim's qualities of love for and loyalty to the synagogue, and service to the community.

Today, I rise to congratulate Jeffrey Spears for receiving the distinguished Rabbi Norman F. Feldheim Award for loyalty and service to the Community and the Congregation of Emanu El. Jeffrey Spears has served his congregation selflessly and faithfully, with uncompromising integrity, candor and generosity.

Jeffrey has been an extraordinarily devoted community leader. His family now marks five generations at Congregation Emanu El. Jeffrey has given evidence of his deep love for Judaism through strong contribution to worship and education, an exemplary commitment to Jewish values, and their application to contemporary society.

Jeffrey has served the surrounding community as member of the San Bernardino City Library Foundation Board, the American Water Works Association, the Mueller Water Products Advisory Council, the California State University San Bernardino School of Education Friends of the College, and the Community Advisory Board of Security Bank of California.

Jeffrey has demonstrated his devotion to Jewish learning and practice by serving on the faculty of Congregation Emanu El's School for Jewish learning, attending Judaism Conventions and traveling to Israel.

Jeffrey has made familial commitment central to his life, continuing to work in the family business founded by his grandfather Julius. Jeffrey and his wife, Heidi Nimmo, have raised their two children, Neil and Sarah, exemplifying commitments to scholastic achievement, community involvement and leadership.

Jeffrey is respected and beloved by our community for his honesty, courage, kindness and compassion. The success of his extraordinary citizenship is best summarized in the receipt of the prestigious Rabbi Norman F. Feldheim Award.

I join today with public leaders throughout my State to express our gratitude to Jeffrey and Congregation Emanu El for reflecting the late Rabbi Feldheim's qualities of service to community, as well as humility, care and loving-kindness.

Madam Speaker, Jeffrey Spears will be honored with the prestigious Rabbi Norman F. Feldheim Award on Saturday, June 2, 2010, marking the 119th Anniversary of the chartering of Congregation Emanu El. It is fitting, on such a momentous occasion, that we stand here today to honor Jeffrey Spears, for his humble and outstanding service.

RECOGNIZING THE DUMFRIES FIRST MOUNT ZION BAPTIST CHURCH HEALTH FAIR

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 25, 2010

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the "Healthy Living/Healthy Lifestyle Conference" sponsored by First Mount Zion Baptist Church in Dumfries, Va., and the Northern Virginia Chapter of the National Coalition of 100 Black Women, Inc.

The health fair focuses on HIV/AIDS and hosts workshops on hypertension-diabetes, cholesterol, obesity in children and adults, prostate cancer, breast cancer, domestic violence and mental health. Community partners have made it possible to provide free health screenings and HIV/AIDS testing to fair attendees. I would like to extend my personal appreciation to the fair's community partners for their charity and good stewardship of a healthy Prince William community.

Prince William County Health Department
NOVAM AIDS Ministry
National Institutes of Health
Prince William County Area Churches
Ezra Nehemiah Solomon Foundation (ENS)
Women In Community Action (WICA)
K I Services
Affairs Remembered, LLC

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in commending First Mount Zion Baptist Church and the Northern Virginia Chapter of the National Coalition of 100 Black Women, Inc. for extending this educational service to the Prince William community. With so many citizens medically underserved and uninformed on healthy lifestyle practices, a free health fair is an opportunity to face these challenges head on and address the threat they pose to our nation's health.

HONORING THE LIFE OF WILROY SANDERS

HON. STEVE COHEN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 25, 2010

Mr. COHEN. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the life of Mr. Wilroy Sanders, a Korean War Veteran, legendary blues musician, and beloved Memphian. Mr. Sanders was born Willie Roy Sanders in Byhalia, Mississippi and moved to Memphis in the early 1930's. From an early age, he demonstrated a remarkable gift for music—teaching himself to play guitar and even making his own guitars. His unique musical style was developed from a combination of his church upbringing and traditional blues music.

After serving in the U.S. Army from 1953–1955, Mr. Sanders returned home to Memphis to pursue his passion for music. In the early 1960s, he played in a series of bands including the Binghampton Blues Boys which became renowned for their song, "Crosscut Saw." Many blues musicians, including Albert King and Eric Clapton, have since covered this hit.

Wilroy Sanders went on to form the Fieldstones, a blues band known for the songs "Blues at Nightfall" and "Dirt Road." In the 1990s, The Fieldstones became the house band for the popular Green's Lounge in Memphis. Soon afterwards, Mr. Sanders and his wife, Dorothy Mae Tucker Sanders, became owners of Green's Lounge, which they owned until it was destroyed by fire in 1997.

Memphis music label Shangri-La produced a 1999 documentary celebrating the life and work of Wilroy Sanders entitled Will Roy Sanders: The Last Living Bluesman. The documentary noted that Mr. Sanders was, like Rufus Thomas, "a total entertainer" and dubbed the Fieldstones "one of the hottest blues bands ever from Memphis."

Mr. Sanders touched the lives of many in Memphis and across the nation. He passed away on Tuesday, February 16, 2010, at the age of 76. We are truly honored for his service in the U.S. Army and for his contributions to the Memphis blues community. Wilroy Sanders' legacy lives on through his wife, children and his music.

HONORING CARMENZA JARAMILLO

HON. MARIO DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 25, 2010

Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Madam Speaker I rise today to honor an exceptional leader and dignitary, the Honorable Carmenza Jaramillo, former Consul General of Colombia to the U.S. and current President of the Colombian American Chamber of Commerce in Miami.

Ms. Jaramillo has served around the world in various posts, including Ambassador of Colombia to India, representing her native Colombia and advancing the needs of her people. Most recently, she served as Consul General in Miami, ensuring that the U.S. and Colombia strengthen their partnership as allies and their presence as the hemisphere's leading democracies. Ms. Jaramillo has also been very much involved in working to promote and advance Colombian American small businesses in our community and has been engaged in issues like trade and commerce, serving as a leading voice in urging the passage of a Free Trade Agreement between the U.S. and Colombia.

Ms. Jaramillo is also dedicated to serving the needs of others and is involved in various community organizations and non-profits and has received numerous recognitions for her work. She serves with professionalism and has dedicated her life to her country. She truly embodies the ideals of liberty and democracy. She is a friend to the U.S. and stands prepared to serve not only her country, but ours as well.

As we celebrate Women's History Month, I ask you to join me in honoring and thanking Ms. Carmenza Jaramillo, for her dedication to her country, her countrymen and to the cause of freedom and democracy.

HONORING REAR ADMIRAL DOUGLASS T. BIESEL, COMMANDER, JOINT REGION MARIANAS, U.S. NAVY, FOR HIS SERVICE TO OUR COMMUNITY

HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 25, 2010

Ms. BORDALLO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the exemplary community service and leadership of Rear Admiral Douglass T. Biesel, Commander, U.S. Naval Forces Marianas; and Commander, Joint Region Marianas. RDML Biesel has been an outstanding leader for the men and women under his command and he has encouraged his troops to be active in our community. RDML Biesel has been a supporter of programs that enhance and promote the Chamorro culture on Guam, and he recently directed the transfer of two historic Latte Stones from the headquarters of Joint Region Marianas to the Governor's Complex in Adelup, Guam. The Latte Stone is an important symbol of Chamorro identity in Guam and the Marianas and represents the cultural heritage of the indigenous people of our islands. RDML Biesel's efforts to return these ancient symbols of Chamorro culture to

the people of Guam are sincerely appreciated by the Chamorro people and our whole community.

RDML Biesel is from Coudersport, Pennsylvania, and was raised in Newtown, Connecticut. A graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy in 1980, RDML Biesel was assigned to serve as Commander of Joint Region Marianas in Guam in May 2009 and was reassigned to serve as Commander of Navy Region Northwest in Silverdale, Washington in March 2010. It is on the occasion of Rear Admiral Biesel's departure from Joint Region Marianas that I join the people of Guam in acknowledging his leadership, outstanding contributions to our community and cultural awareness.

RECOGNIZING THE RECIPIENT OF THE 2010 PRINCE WILLIAM AMERICAN RED CROSS AWARDS

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 25, 2010

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the recipients of the 2010 Prince William American Red Cross Awards. These individuals and their work with the Red Cross stand as an example of dedication and service for the benefit and safety of the community.

The Elizabeth Smith Davies award is presented to a volunteer in recognition of 25 years of service. This year's recipient, Ruth Stroaker, began volunteering for the Red Cross in the 1980s while her husband was serving in the military in the Pacific. She has done everything from data entry, typing, filing, volunteering in the base medical and dental clinic, to leading volunteer orientation classes, and handling disaster services case work. In 1989 she became a military and international services case worker. During her tenure, she has reconnected families separated by war and other calamities, helped arrange compassionate leave for the military, and provided special support to those who have suffered devastating disasters and other emergencies. Ruth is a beloved member of the Prince William team, always handling her casework with compassion and kindness. Her clients become her family, and she is tenacious in helping them get the help they need.

Tony Boone is the recipient of the 2010 Dr. Gail Kettlewell Award. Tony is a long-standing member of the Prince William Red Cross Board of Directors and is always willing to do whatever needs to be done to support the chapter. He has been the chair of the Finance Committee for the past three years. During his time on the Building Committee, he donated many hours of his time to negotiating and developing a letter of agreement for land donated by Lockheed Martin. This included helping the chapter sort through many pages of county regulations and eventually applying for various city permits. He is the chapter's goodwill ambassador and you can always find him at various events telling his Red Cross story.

Chuck Mudd has volunteered with the Prince William Chapter for a little more than a year, but he has quickly become a treasured member of the team. In the last 12 months, Chuck has been involved with numerous local

fire responses, worked daily on the renovation of the new chapter facility, cleaned out the attic and garage of the old chapter house, attended a winter field day exercise to learn tent operations and managed a shelter during one of the big snowstorms. He also uses his expertise and leadership skills in representing the chapter on the disaster services committee and various regional working groups. In addition, Chuck is a major financial donor to the chapter. His attitude, great personality, and willingness to work in rain, sleet, and lots of snow, make him invaluable to the chapter.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in honoring the staff and volunteers of the Prince William American Red Cross. When a community is hit by disaster, the Red Cross is often the first on the scene to provide comfort and assistance. The efforts of individual members are responsible for the organization's outstanding reputation, and I am honored to recognize Ruth Stroaker, Tony Boone, and Chuck Mudd for contributing to this tradition of excellence.

HONORING HOOSIER PEACE CORPS VOLUNTEERS

HON. DAN BURTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 25, 2010

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor 21 young Hoosiers who are currently serving our country overseas as members of the Peace Corps.

The Peace Corps was an initiative started by President John F. Kennedy. It was established by Executive Order 1924 on March 1, 1961, and later authorized by Congress on September 22, 1961, through passage of the Peace Corps Act (Public Law 87-293). The Peace Corps Act declares the purpose of the Peace Corps to be:

To promote world peace and friendship through a Peace Corps, which shall make available to interested countries and areas men and women of the United States qualified for service abroad and willing to serve, under conditions of hardship if necessary, to help the peoples of such countries and areas in meeting their needs for trained manpower.

The Peace Corps has pursued its legislative mandate of promoting world peace and friendship by sending volunteers to serve at the grassroots level in villages and towns in across the globe. Living and working with ordinary people, Peace Corps volunteers have offered their expertise in a variety of areas—such as teachers, environmental specialists, health promoters, and small business advisers—to help improve the lives of those they work with and in turn help them better understand the American people and American culture. To date, nearly 200,000 Peace Corps volunteers have served in 139 countries; and about 7,671 volunteers are currently serving in 76 nations.

Beginning this spring, for the first time, Peace Corps volunteers will serve in Indonesia working as English teachers in high schools and at teacher training institutions. Later in the year, the Peace Corps will return to Sierra Leone after a 16-year absence and focus on secondary education and work with their host communities on grassroots initiatives and community developments.

The first week in March has traditionally been set aside to honor the history and accomplishments of the Peace Corps. This year's festivities took place March 1, 2010 through March 7, 2010 and commemorated the 49th anniversary of the Peace Corps.

Madam Speaker, the Peace Corps is perhaps our country's most important public diplo-

macy programs. The sight of ordinary Americans volunteering to serve the world's most disadvantaged populations has never failed to elevate good will toward our country. I ask unanimous consent to include in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD the names of the 21 Hoosiers from my District who are currently serving their tours with the Peace Corps in

countries ranging from Ukraine and Moldova in Europe, to Botswana, Tanzania, and Zambia in Africa, to Guatemala and Costa Rica in Central America. I ask all of my colleagues to join me in honoring these outstanding young men and women and in wishing them well in their endeavors.

SWORN-IN VOLUNTEERS IN THE DISTRICT OF IN-05

[Representative: Dan Burton]

| Volunteer name | Country of service | Start of svc date | Projected cos date |
|------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| Adenrele, Adeyemi O | Cape Verde | 20-Sep-2008 | 25-Sep-2010 |
| Bagley, Zachary P | Uganda | 15-Oct-2009 | 14-Oct-2011 |
| Brooks, Meredith L | Swaziland | 27-Aug-2009 | 26-Aug-2011 |
| Caio, Laura M | Botswana | 18-Jun-2009 | 17-Jun-2011 |
| Carpenter, Stacy M | Kazakhstan | 31-Oct-2009 | 30-Oct-2011 |
| Coe, David M | Armenia | 13-Aug-2009 | 13-Aug-2011 |
| Elliott, Joel C | South Africa | 03-Apr-2008 | 27-Mar-2010 |
| Garvey, Jack E | Armenia | 14-Aug-2008 | 14-Aug-2010 |
| Houghton, Travis S | Guatemala | 17-Jul-2009 | 16-Jul-2011 |
| Jefferson, Matthew P | Botswana | 18-Jun-2009 | 17-Jun-2011 |
| Lutz, Isaac D | Moldova | 18-Aug-2009 | 18-Aug-2011 |
| Miller, Christopher J | Guyana | 23-Apr-2009 | 24-Apr-2011 |
| Myers, Emilia A | Tanzania | 20-Aug-2008 | 19-Aug-2010 |
| Ready, Lauren E | Albania | 28-May-2009 | 27-May-2011 |
| Roberts, Sarah R | Dominican Republic | 28-Oct-2009 | 28-Oct-2011 |
| Rosensteele, Matthew J | Costa Rica | 16-May-2008 | 21-May-2010 |
| Rulon, Jennifer A | Mali | 10-Sep-2009 | 11-Sep-2011 |
| Sather, Made R | Zambia | 25-Sep-2009 | 05-Feb-2011 |
| Sather, Robert O | Zambia | 25-Sep-2009 | 05-Feb-2011 |
| Theibert, Julie E | Namibia | 16-Oct-2009 | 14-Oct-2011 |
| Umstead, Andrew D | Ukraine | 09-Dec-2008 | 09-Dec-2010 |
| Total Volunteers: 21. | | | |

HONORING THE RESCUE EFFORTS AT THE HOTEL MONTANA

HON. ZACH WAMP

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 25, 2010

Mr. WAMP. Madam Speaker, when the catastrophic earthquake devastated the island nation of Haiti in January, Americans from coast to coast rallied together in the spirit of compassion and generosity to help those in need. Several emergency organizations including Virginia's Fairfax County Urban Search and Rescue teams and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers responded to the crisis. They took on the daunting task of searching for survivors and recovering the remains of our fellow Americans from the Hotel Montana, a bustling hotel where many U.S. citizens were staying at the time of the deadly quake.

The heroic efforts of these patriots went far above the call of duty. For more than a month, Fairfax County Urban Search and Rescue teams braved extremely dangerous conditions, retrieving victims from the hotel ruins. The Army Corps of Engineers used heavy equipment to move mountains of rubble while the search and rescue teams simultaneously looked for survivors. They selflessly returned to the site each day facing the imminent threat of aftershocks and deadly structural collapse.

Together, these men and women, led by U.S. Army COL Norberto Cintron, worked tirelessly from dawn to dusk in suffocating humidity and in temperatures that soared above 90 degrees to bring our missing fellow Americans home.

Colonel Cintron is a man of exceptional honor and dignity who answered the emergency call to duty without hesitation. He provided an invaluable service to the families of the missing Americans, speaking with them at length on daily conference calls to explain the status of recovery efforts and answer all of their questions.

Colonel Cintron broke from bureaucratic rhetoric to give family members straight-

forward, compassionate updates on their missing loved ones. He conveyed a sense of urgency and strong determination to find both the living and the dead trapped beneath the rubble of the Hotel Montana. With two daughters deployed to the Middle East, Colonel Cintron treated all of the missing persons as if they were a part of his own family. His heartfelt empathy and willingness to go the extra mile for those awaiting news back home brought humanity and hope to families suffering unimaginable loss.

My thoughts and prayers are with the people of Haiti and all of those who lost loved ones. I am grateful for the tenacity of leaders like Colonel Cintron, the volunteer spirit of the Fairfax County Urban Search and Rescue teams and the tireless work of the Army Corps of Engineers at the Hotel Montana. Their unwavering commitment brought a measure of closure to the families in the midst of this horrific situation.

INTRODUCING THE VIRGINIA ACCESS TO ENERGY ACT (VA ENERGY ACT)

HON. BOB GOODLATTE

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 25, 2010

Mr. GOODLATTE. Madam Speaker, for many years the Commonwealth of Virginia has seriously been considering the potential positive impact that Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) development off Virginia's coast would have on the Commonwealth. In 2008, it seemed that the Commonwealth would be able to make OCS development a reality when we in Congress, and then President George Bush, removed hurdles that had previously blocked access to energy resources located on the OCS. However, since that point, Virginia has been confronted with a series of regulatory road blocks. Although a lease sale has been proposed in Virginia's OCS, the first scheduled lease sale for energy development in the At-

lantic, Interior Secretary Ken Salazar has continued to postpone this Virginia lease sale. This delay is happening despite the strong support for the lease sale by the Virginia Congressional Delegation, the Governor of Virginia, the Virginia General Assembly, and the citizens of Virginia. Madam Speaker, the voices of Virginians must be heard.

To allow the Virginia lease sale to proceed we must remove the regulatory road blocks that are impeding development of Virginia's OCS, so I rise today with a bipartisan group of members of the Virginia Congressional Delegation to introduce the "Virginia Access (VA) to Energy Act." This legislation would require that the Department of the Interior, at the request of Virginia's governor, proceed with the Virginia lease sale no later than one year after passage of this legislation. This will remove the regulatory hurdles that have impeded development and create a path for Virginia to become "the Energy Capital of the East Coast."

Passage of this legislation and development of VA's OCS will significantly boost the economy of the Commonwealth of Virginia. In fact, some estimates have shown that development of Virginia's OCS will create 2,578 full-time equivalent positions on an annual basis, induce capital investment of \$7.84 billion, yield \$644 million in direct and indirect payroll, and result in \$271 million in State and local taxes. While exploration activities alone will infuse the Virginia economy with a significant amount of new capital, this legislation will also authorize any qualified revenues generated by the lease sales to be shared between the federal government and the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Virginians understand that a major component in lessening energy costs is to produce more energy. I believe that Virginia should have every tool available to access its energy supplies, while at the same time creating thousands of jobs for Virginians and infusing the Commonwealth with new capital growth. I urge

Congress to pass this legislation to allow Virginia to move towards a path of energy independence.

RECOGNIZING SEA SCOUT SHIP
7916

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 25, 2010

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Sea Scout Ship 7916, "Blue Heron," of Occoquan, VA.

Sea Scout Ship 7916 is a young but very active unit in the Boy Scouts of America National Capital Area Council (NCAC). The Ship hosts regular sailing ventures, service projects, training courses, fundraisers and social activities.

Ship 7916 has excelled in obtaining a significant number of awards in a short period, including the NCAC's "Wardroom Award" for achievement only four months after being formed. I would like to extend my personal congratulations to the Sea Scouts who have received awards in the past calendar year.

NCAC Commodore's Award—Shay Seaborne, Skipper—For devotion and enthusiasm given to Sea Scouting and assistance in the furtherance of the Sea Scout program as the initiator and driving force of the Save der PeLiKan Campaign, which aims to raise \$20,000 needed to repair the regional training vessel; NCAC Boatswain of the Year Award—Rebecca Siegal, Boatswain—For outstanding participation in Sea Scouting activities, for conducting training, for enthusiasm, loyalty, team spirit, and leadership given, for a positive attitude, ability to live up to responsibilities, and promoting Sea Scouting in the community; Venturing Advisor Award of Merit—Shay Seaborne, Skipper—For tenure, training, and providing a quality program; NCAC Outstanding Contribution—Karl and Stella Kent—For their generous financial contribution to the Save der PeLiKan fund. NCAC Outstanding Contribution—Skipper's Mate Dr. Rosemary Enright and Don Coulter—For their generous financial contribution to the Save der PeLiKan fund. Catherine A. Mullikan Sea Scout Volunteer of the Year—Rebecca Siegal, Boatswain—For significant service to the community, both inside and outside of Sea Scouting. Sea Scout of the Year Award—Rebecca Siegal, Boatswain—For excellence in advancement, citizenship, leadership and seamanship skills.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Sea Scout Ship 7916 and congratulating its highly decorated membership. They are responsible community partners and uphold the well-respected traditions and principles of scouting.

CONGRATULATING GEORGIA'S
MOCK TRIAL TEAMS

HON. DAVID SCOTT

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 25, 2010

Mr. SCOTT of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor two exceptional high

school teams from my district. The Jonesboro High School and Morrow High School Mock Trial teams have had an unprecedented record of success. Collectively, both teams have surpassed expectations and are on their way to another record breaking year for the State of Georgia.

Jonesboro High School will compete for its seventeenth State Bar of Georgia Championship. No other school in the State of Georgia's history has ever reached this level of consummation. In addition to this record breaking endeavor, Jonesboro High School has already accomplished two national championships. This is a testament that hard work and discipline truly yield enormous results.

Morrow High School has also achieved ground breaking success. Morrow High School was the runner up in the State of Georgia region eight competition. The irony of this team's success is that Morrow High lost several team members just days before the competition. Nevertheless, this team expeditiously put together a new team which led to two of the three replacements winning state awards. While this team's cohesive bond was tested, their determination prevailed, which led them to another notable year. In addition to this year's success, it has been nine years since any other school in Clayton County has become the region champion.

With the help of the faculty advisors and community mentors, these two teams have displayed the passion and integrity that we, as members of Congress, continuously encourage. These teams represent the very essence of America as it has displayed its dedication, passion, and integrity throughout the competition in the courtroom and throughout the community.

HONORING MICHAELA MEYERHOFF
FOR WINNING THE LESSONS OF
THE AFRICAN-AMERICAN EXPERIENCE
WRITING CONTEST

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 25, 2010

Mr. COURTNEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Michaela Meyerhoff as a winner of the first annual "Lessons of the African-American Experience" Creative Writing Contest. Michaela is currently in the sixth grade at Preston Plains Middle School, which is located in Preston, Connecticut.

In celebration of Black History Month, I sponsored a creative writing contest for all third through eighth grade students within the Second District. As we know, Black History Month is a time to reflect on the struggles and triumphs of our Nation's past. The lessons learned during this month continue to serve as the stepping stones of our Nation's future. Michaela's poem "What Black History Month Means to Me!" eloquently embraces this belief.

Michaela's poem shows a remarkable enthusiasm for learning that is inspiring to all. She identified the values that she learned during Black History Month and creatively discussed how those values affect her life and the lives of others. For this, her poem was among the four winners selected.

INTRODUCTION OF THE CENSUS
OVERSIGHT EFFICIENCY AND
MANAGEMENT REFORM ACT OF
2010

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 25, 2010

Mrs. MALONEY. Madam Speaker, today I am introducing legislation, with my colleagues, Mr. DENT, Mr. TOWNS, and Mr. PASCARELL, and with a companion bill being introduced in the Senate by Senators CARPER and COBURN, that would ensure that the Census Bureau has the independence and transparency it needs to carry out its essential, constitutionally-mandated function. This bill would ensure the Bureau is focused on the ten-year process of preparing for the Census despite the four-year cycles of Presidential administrations.

This bill would mandate the Director at Census report directly to the Secretary so there is clear responsibility for supervision of the Census and to submit his or her own opinion in testimony to Congress even if it differs from the administration. It would make the Director of the Census Bureau a Presidential term appointment of five years, with the ten-year decennial cycle split into two, five-year phases—planning and operational, creating continuity across administrations. And it would require that the Director, when submitting the Bureau's budget request to the Secretary, also share that request with Congress increasing transparency and oversight.

The time to start worrying about the 2020 Census is now. Currently, the 2010 Census seems to be on a path to success, but if we are going to stop the repeated operational crises that have plagued each of the last four censuses, we need to change how we administer the census. I am confident the bill we are introducing today will move us toward that goal. And I want to thank my colleagues for joining me in starting the process for 2020 now.

LINKAGE IN THE MIDDLE EAST

HON. SHELLEY BERKLEY

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 25, 2010

Ms. BERKLEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to call my colleagues' attention to a recent blog post on the Jerusalem Post website, written by Abraham Foxman, the National Director of the Anti-Defamation League, ADL. Mr. Foxman challenges the idea that there is "linkage" between the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and other conflicts in the Middle East. It is both unrealistic and dangerous to believe that solving the Israeli-Palestinian conflict will somehow solve our problems in Iran, Iraq, Afghanistan, Lebanon and everywhere else in the Middle East. Distinct conflicts require distinct solutions and lumping them all together serves no one's interests, least of all our own. I highly recommend this excellent article.

[From the Jerusalem Post, Mar. 21, 2010]

A POINT OF VIEW: LINKAGE AND THE ISRAELI-PALESTINIAN CONFLICT
(By Abraham Foxman)

No matter how many times it is proven to have no validity, the theme of linking the

Israeli-Palestinian conflict to broader issues in the region rears its head over and over again. Zbigniew Brzezinski did it in the 1970s, trying to blame Soviet influence in the region on the absence of a solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict. Prior to the first Gulf War, there were those who opposed the war on the grounds that we needed first to address the Palestinian issue before we could credibly confront Saddam Hussein. And early on in the Obama administration, reports were circulating suggesting that American interests throughout the Middle East were dependent on progress on the Palestinian-Israeli front.

Henry Kissinger, in his magisterial two-volume memoir, dealt with this matter head on. He demonstrated during the Cold War that America's ability to further its broader regional interests was connected not to a need to resolve the Palestinian issue, but to showing America's moderate allies in the region—Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Jordan, the Gulf States—that it paid to be allied with America. The best way to prove that? When Israel was under attack by regional extremists supported by the Soviets, it was vital for the US to make sure that Israel triumphed. By doing so, the moderates would absorb the truth that the future lay with the US and its allies. Standing up against radicals and with one's allies, rather than blaming one's friends for problems in the region, continues to be the best formula for serving US interests in the Middle East.

Now we are hearing the linkage theme once again. After the brouhaha between the administration and the Israeli government surfaced, a story emerged indicating that a military team under General David Petraeus's CENTCOM command reported to the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Adm. Michael Mullen in January that Israel was jeopardizing US standing in the region. And then Petraeus himself, speaking before the Senate Armed Services Committee on March 16, reinforced this message. He stated that the Israeli-Palestinian conflict "fosters anti-American sentiment, due to a perception of US favoritism for Israel." He went on to say that "Arab anger over the Palestinian question limits the strength and depth of US partnerships with governments and peoples in the AOR (Area of Responsibility) and weakens the legitimacy of moderate regimes in the Arab world."

Once again, an illusion is at work here, one that will, if pursued, invariably result in no real progress being made in the region. We all want peace between Israel and the Arabs. And putting more effort toward such a goal is a good thing. What is not real, and is dangerous, is putting most of America's eggs in the region in this basket.

The Arab-Israeli conflict has never responded to such a heavy emphasis. Progress is made when Arab leaders decide it's time for peace. Maybe Assad of Syria is considering this, and it should be explored. But that's very different from placing this conflict at the center of everything. Disappointment, as always, will follow since the gap between what the Arabs want and Israel wants is substantial. Moreover, Arab willingness to accept Israel's legitimacy as a "Jewish State" is belied by everything that comes from Arab leaders and Arab media.

What inevitably happens if such unrealistic weight in the region is given to the Israeli-Arab conflict is that Israel comes to be seen as the problem. If only Israel would stop settlements, if only Israel would talk with Hamas, if only Israel would make concessions on refugees, if only it would share Jerusalem, everything in the region would be fine. Iraq would be fine. Afghanistan would be fine. Pakistan would be fine. Iran would be fine. Lebanon would be fine.

Of course, this is nonsense. These problems would remain even if Israel did not exist. The result of such an approach would be no progress on America's interests and great stress in US-Israel relations.

The Kissinger approach of strengthening moderates may be tainted in some minds because it may be associated with Bush's policy—but it doesn't have to be. One doesn't have to be a Bush supporter to understand that the greatest need in the region today is for victories by the moderates over the radicals. In Israel's case, radical challenges exist from Hamas in the south, Hizbullah and Syria in the north, and Iran. All are complicated challenges. US support for a strong and wise Israeli policy in response to these challenges will provide the best opportunity to strengthen American interests. Holding off Hamas, weakening Hizbullah, or preventing Iran from gaining nuclear weapons will provide the biggest boost to moderates throughout the Middle East. If the Obama administration can help bring about one or more of these accomplishments, it will go a long way to restoring American influence in the region and, by the way, make Israeli-Arab peace far more likely.

This linkage trend, if continued, is dangerous and counterproductive. It could undermine the historic bipartisan support for Israel in America, a support based on moral and strategic grounds, that has been—and still is—good for both countries. It will reduce whatever incentive the Palestinians have to reach a compromise peace with Israel; if America is backing away from Israel, the Palestinians would reason, then hopes of Israel's disappearance will be strengthened. It will raise questions about American loyalty and credibility among the Arabs who, despite their rhetoric criticizing US support for Israel, would be far more distressed about the US abandoning an ally.

It diverts attention away from the larger challenges in the region—Iran's nuclear program, and the challenge of Islamic extremism and terrorism. Finally, it has the smell about it of blaming the Jews for everything. The notion that al-Qaida's hatred of America or Iran's pursuit of nuclear weapons or the ongoing threat of extremist terrorist groups in the region is based on Israel's announcement of building apartments is absurd on its face and smacks of scapegoating.

It's time for the administration to step back not only from the harsh rhetoric but also from the illusionary thinking about Israel hurting American interests. America and Israel can have their differences, but the US has no better ally than Israel. The administration needs to recognize this and find ways to reassure those who are raising concerns.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 25, 2010

Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado. Madam Speaker, today our National debt is \$12,662,466,657,519.82.

On January 6, 2009, the start of the 111th Congress, the national debt was \$10,638,425,746,293.80.

This means the national debt has increased by \$2,024,040,911,226.02 so far this Congress.

This debt and its interest payments we are passing to our children and all future Americans.

HONORING MARIA COSTA SMITH

HON. MARIO DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 25, 2010

Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Maria Costa Smith, successful horticulturalist, businesswoman and agricultural engineer in South Dade, Florida.

Maria currently serves as the color division president of Costa Farms. She is part of the third generation of the Costa family to run the farm. Started in 1961 by her grandfather, Jose Costa, and father, Tony Costa, Costa farms is one of South Dade's largest small businesses, now employing 2,200 and owning over 2,600 acres of land. In addition to its thriving foliage and plant divisions, Costa Farms operates merchandising and transportation companies in south Florida, North Carolina, the Dominican Republic and Costa Rica. Maria runs the farm with her husband, Chief Executive Officer Jose Smith, and her brother, Jose, who is vice president of the foliage division.

Recently, the Dade County Farm Bureau Women's Committee recognized Maria Costa Smith as the 2010 Woman of Distinction in Agriculture. She was recognized for her valuable contributions to the South Dade agriculture and agribusiness. Today I honor her for those reasons and many more, including her commitment to seeing through the dream of her grandfather, helping others in the community and ensuring that South Florida's local economy continues to flourish.

As we celebrate Women's History Month, I ask you to join me in congratulating and thanking Maria Costa Smith for her outstanding dedication, work ethic and desire to see her community prosper.

PRESIDENT MORE POPULAR IN THE NEWS THAN AMERICANS

HON. LAMAR SMITH

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 25, 2010

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Madam Speaker, President Obama is far more popular in the news than he is among American people.

Sixty percent of national media mentions of the President were positive over the past week while 40 percent were negative, according to Rasmussen Reports' new "Media Meter."

In contrast, just 48 percent of Americans approve of the job the President is doing.

By a 10-point margin, more Americans "strongly disapprove" of the President's job than "strongly approve." And just one-quarter say the country is "on the right track."

Wouldn't it be nice if the national media reflected the views of the American people?

The national media should give Americans the facts, not tell them what to think.

INTRODUCTION OF THE INFORMED TAXPAYERS' FEDERAL GOVERNMENT ANNUAL REPORTING ACT OF 2010

HON. KEVIN MCCARTHY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 25, 2010

Mr. MCCARTHY of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of legislation I introduced, along with my colleagues Congressman ERIC CANTOR, Congressman DAVE CAMP, Congressman PAUL RYAN, and Congressman KEVIN BRADY, that would require the Internal Revenue Service, IRS, to publish certain fiscal information on the Federal government each year and make it available to taxpayers online and when they prepare their taxes.

Just like publicly-owned companies in the United States provide information on their finances in annual shareholder reports, I believe the Federal government ought to provide important transparency about the state of our Nation's finances. Taxpayers are like shareholders of the Federal government and ought to have access to similar information on their government.

Unfortunately, statistics on Federal government tax revenue, spending, deficits, and debt are often buried in random reports or on government websites and presented in a confusing manner with technical jargon or confusing formats. Why must it be that difficult for Americans to learn about what their government is doing with their money? It should not be, and this is the purpose of the Informed Taxpayers' Federal Government Annual Reporting Act.

Specifically, this bill would require the IRS to publish a chart on government finances to be included in the instruction booklets taxpayers use when filing their income taxes each April and post this chart on the IRS online homepage. The chart would be broken down into three sections. The first section, "Current Federal Government Finances," would be required to include current Federal tax revenue, spending, deficits, and public debt statistics. "Federal Government Finances & You," the second section, would include per capita data, such as each taxpayer's share of the national debt. And the last section, "Projected Federal Government Finances," would be required to include estimated Federal tax revenue, spending, deficits, and debt over the next ten years as put together by the Congressional Budget Office, CBO.

With enactment of the Federal government takeover of health care and the \$1 trillion stimulus bill—including interest—it is all the more important for the American people to know what their government is doing and how this impacts our nation as whole. These policies have contributed to the current amount of taxes, spending, deficit, and debt, which are all in the trillions of dollars. Unfortunately, it seems in Washington that trillion has become the new billion.

The Federal government takes in over \$2 trillion in tax revenue annually, but even with that incredible amount of taxpayer dollars flowing into the government, this Congress and the President continue to spend with borrowed money—\$1.4 trillion last year. This means Washington spent almost \$3.5 trillion. And this year, it does not look that much better with deficits projected to be \$1.5 trillion, according

to the Office of Management and Budget. With all this runaway spending, the Federal debt continues to grow, and CBO projects it to be \$13.2 trillion this year.

These numbers are not only shocking, but unsustainable.

The Informed Taxpayers' Federal Government Annual Reporting Act is designed to build upon fundamental tenets of American democracy of transparency and openness in government by helping ensure that all Americans have access to easy-to-understand information on how their tax dollars are being used by their government.

TRIBUTE TO WAREHAM HIGH SCHOOL—THE 2010 MASSACHUSETTS DIVISION III BASKETBALL STATE CHAMPIONS

HON. BARNEY FRANK

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 25, 2010

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Madam Speaker, today, I would like to pay tribute to the Wareham High School Basketball team who just captured the first Division III State Championship Title for the town of Wareham, Massachusetts. This was their first state title since 1956. This impressive team is led by Coach Kevin Brogioli and includes Jules Tavares, who scored a game-high 25 points and Pat Murphy, who scored 11 points, including his 1,000th career point.

This season, the Vikings have scored 100 points or more in four games, beating Cardinal Spellman 78–71 to clinch the Division III South Sectional Championship, besting Bedford at the TD Bank Boston Garden 63–49 to become the Division III Eastern Championship and defeating New Leadership of Springfield 80–57 at the DCU Center in Worcester to capture the Division III State Championship Title.

Congratulations to Coach Brogioli, Assistant Coach Steve Faniel, Assistant Coach Mike Ponte and the Vikings team, listed here in alphabetical order: Darien Fernandez, Sheldon Frye, Jowaun Gamble, Marcus Gomes, Darren Gray, Jeff Houde, Harry Irving, Dylan Marcal, Mike Mendes, Pat Murphy, Ryan Pina, Jordan Rezendes, Dwight Senna, Jules Tavares, and Nikko Vasconcellos. We are very proud of their teamwork, dedication, and sportsmanship.

I am enclosing a proclamation by the town of Wareham and an article that further describes this important achievement.

TOWN OF WAREHAM—PROCLAMATION BY THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Whereas, the Wareham High School Boys' Varsity Basketball team, known as the Vikings, have demonstrated exemplary sportsmanship and teamwork, and

Whereas, their coach, Kevin Brogioli, along with the assistant coaches, parents and supporters, showed great faith and encouragement to the Vikings, and

Whereas, the Vikings had scored 100 points or more in four games, averaging 87.8 points per game in the regular season, and had three players to reach 1,000 or more points scoring, and

Whereas, the Vikings beat Cardinal Spellman 78–71 to clinch the Division III South Sectional Championship, and

Whereas, the Vikings defeated Bedford at the TD Bank Boston Garden 63–49 to become the Division III Eastern Champions, and

Whereas, the Vikings defeated New Leadership of Springfield 80–57 at the DCU Center

in Worcester; to capture the first Division III State Championship title for Wareham,

Now, therefore, We, the Wareham Board of Selectmen, do hereby proclaim Saturday, March 13, 2010 through Saturday, March 20, 2010 as:

"STATE CHAMPION WAREHAM VIKINGS WEEK"

In Wareham, culminating with a Parade on Saturday March 20, 2010, to honor the young men and the coaches of Wareham Vikings Basketball team that have made this town so proud.

[From SouthCoastToday.com, March 14, 2010]

WAREHAM BOYS BRING HOME FIRST STATE BASKETBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

(By Ed Collins)

WORCESTER.—Having gotten all the way to the Division 3 State championship game, and needing 32 good minutes to win it all, the Wareham boys basketball team left nothing to chance Saturday afternoon.

The Vikings saved their best game of the season for their last, digging deep on defense, flying high on offense and even finding time to help senior Pat Murphy reach an elusive milestone en route to an 80–57 win over New Leadership Charter School of Springfield at the DCU Center.

"We executed our game plan to near perfection," a smiling Wareham coach Kevin Brogioli said after bringing home the first state basketball championship in school history. "We got the job done on defense and we played some good Wareham fast-break basketball."

"We came here expecting to win, but we thought it would be a last-second game," junior Jules Tavares said. "It didn't work out that way though, because we played great. To play like that in our biggest game of the season says a lot about the kind of team we have. This was a dream game for us."

New Leadership certainly wasn't expecting the kind of defense it saw from Wareham.

"We're known for our offense and that's been a key for us all season," Brogioli said. "But, we also take a lot of pride in our defense. Our kids always work hard on defense and that gets overlooked sometimes."

In comments made before the game, Wildcats coach Capus Gee talked about how his team planned to beat the Vikings by pounding the ball into the paint and shutting down their fast break.

Wareham's Ryan Pina, a 6-foot-3 senior center, took offense at the remarks and came out fired up to play his best defensive game of the season.

"I read what he said and took it as a personal challenge. I wasn't going to let them push us around," Pina said. "Our offense gets all the headlines, but we can play defense against anyone and we proved that today."

Senior guard Darren Gray set a good tone right away for Wareham with some tough man-to-man defense against New Leadership point guard Phillip Warrick, who ended up scoring 18 points, three below his average.

"Defense wins championships and coach (Brogioli) has been preaching that to us all season," Gray said. "We knew we had to get the job done on defense. We never have to worry about scoring points, but you don't win games at this level if you don't play good team defense."

The Vikings made some early stops, hit the boards hard, and shifted into overdrive on offense after the first of two thunderous dunks by Tavares lit a fire under them.

Wareham, which had two shots blocked by the athletic Wildcats (21–4) in the opening minute, took the lead for good at 10–8 and never looked back after building a 22–13 lead in the first quarter.

Tavares finished with a game-high 25 points for the Vikings, who led 42-22 at half-time and kept pulling away in the second half en route to building several 28-point leads.

Senior forward Jordan Rezendes also had a big game, finishing with 21 points and three of the team's four 3-pointers. Pina chipped in with 10 points and some big rebounds on the defensive glass that kept the Wildcats from getting second shots.

With the game out of hand late, the Vikings made a concerted effort to help Murphy reach the 1,000-point mark for his career. After not scoring in the first half, Murphy made a 3-pointer and finished with five points in the third quarter to hit 995 for his career. A pair of layups in the fourth quarter set the stage for Murphy's milestone basket, a baseline drive with 1:48 left to play that came as a big relief to Murphy—and the large Wareham crowd that lived and died with every shot he took down the stretch.

"I didn't know if I was going to get there, but I did and I have my teammates to thank, because they kept passing me the ball," Murphy said. "Those last six points were the hardest ones of my career. I'm glad I was able to get it done in my last game and help the team win the biggest game in school history."

After Murphy's final basket, the celebration began in earnest for the Vikings. Brogioli pulled his starters with 1:46 remaining and there were a lot of hugs and high fives up and down the team's bench.

"It feels great to win this game for the people of Wareham and my father (Jim Brogioli), who coached this team for a long time," Brogioli said. "Our fans were great all season and they stepped it up in the state tournament. We fed off their energy and we thank them for their support. It's been a great ride, a historical ride, and this team has left its mark on Wareham High School forever."

HONORING CORPORAL JONATHAN DANIEL PORTO

HON. C.A. DUTCH RUPPERSBERGER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 25, 2010

Mr. RUPPERSBERGER. Madam Speaker, I rise before you today to honor the life of Cpl Jonathan Daniel Porto, who died honorably serving his country as a part of Operation Enduring Freedom.

Corporal Porto enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps in March 2008. An honor graduate from Paris Island, he received two meritorious promotions. Corporal Porto served as a Small Arms Repair Technician and was assigned under 1st Battalion 6th Marine Regiment, 2nd Marine Division, II Marine Expeditionary Force, Camp Lejeune, North Carolina.

In March 2010, at the age of 26, Corporal Porto was killed in action while supporting combat operations in the Helmand province of southern Afghanistan. For his superior leadership skills, Porto was promoted to Corporal in December 2009.

His awards include the Afghanistan Campaign Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, and NATO International Security Assistance Force Medal.

I commend Corporal Porto for his utmost dedication and devotion to preserving the freedom of our Nation. His commitment and brav-

ery gives his widow and infant daughter, Rachel and Ariana Porto, of Edgewood, Maryland, immense pride.

Madam Speaker, I ask that you join with me today to honor the life of Cpl Jonathan Daniel Porto. It gives me great pride to honor one of our Nation's fallen heroes.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TODD TIAHRT

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 25, 2010

Mr. TIAHRT. Madam Speaker, on March 23, I missed six rollcall votes numbered 172, 173, 174, 175, 176, and 177.

Rollcall No. 172 was a vote on Ordering the Previous Question. Had I been present I would have voted "no."

Rollcall No. 173 was a vote on Agreeing to the Resolution, H. Res. 1205. Had I been present I would have voted "no."

Rollcall No. 174 was a vote On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass H.J. Res. 80. Had I been present I would have voted "aye."

Rollcall No. 175 was a vote On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass H. Res. 1186. Had I been present I would have voted "aye."

Rollcall No. 176 was a vote On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass H.R. 3976. Had I been present I would have voted "aye."

Rollcall No. 177 was a vote On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass H.R. 4592. Had I been present I would have voted "aye."

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOE DONNELLY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 25, 2010

Mr. DONNELLY of Indiana. Madam Speaker, on rollcall #185, I was not present to vote; however, had I been present, I would have voted "yea".

COMMEMORATING THE VISIT TO CUBA OF THE FREEDOM SCHOONER AMISTAD IN RECOGNITION OF U.N. DAY OF REMEMBRANCE FOR SLAVERY VICTIMS

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 25, 2010

Ms. DELAURO. Madam Speaker, it is with enormous pride that I wish to inform my colleagues that the Freedom Schooner Amistad, a national human rights icon moored in New Haven, CT, is making history this week. As part of the United Nations commemoration of March 25 as the global Day of Remembrance for the victims of the Atlantic slave trade, the Amistad arrived Monday in Matanzas, Cuba, and today will sail for Havana.

The Amistad entered Cuban waters on March 22, 2010 for a 10-day, two city Cuba tour that will culminate its recent Caribbean Heritage Voyage. The ship first visited Matanzas, site of a new UNESCO-affiliated

slavery museum. Today, the Amistad will sail into Havana Harbor to commemorate the historic "triangle of trade" connections between America, Europe, Africa and the Caribbean. Tomorrow, the vessel will host a three-hour simulcast about the shared slave trade heritage, connecting Cuban students to classrooms across the Atlantic Ocean and at the U.N. in New York. In addition to public tours of the boat and academic panels on its history, the Cuba visits will focus on the impact of the slave trade on our transatlantic cultural heritage—including religious ritual, film, music, dance, poetry and visits to former plantations.

The sale of the Amistad captives in Havana was a small transaction in the thriving international slave trade. But the resulting events arguably turned the tide against slavery itself—and the historical connections across the modern African Diaspora are direct and profound.

This visit is especially poignant because Amistad's own story began in Cuba. The original ship was built in Cuba. In 1839, the Amistad sailed from Havana, the center of the illegal slave trade. This will be the replica's first visit to Cuba—and it coincides with the tenth anniversary of its launch at Mystic Seaport Museum on March 25, 2000.

The Amistad is a 140-foot replica of the two-masted black schooner that was at the center of the 1841 slave rebellion case argued successfully by John Quincy Adams, leading to the first U.S. Supreme Court case freeing African captives. The replica Amistad has visited 70 domestic and international ports as a symbol of this human rights milestone.

In 2008, the Amistad undertook a 14,000-mile transatlantic sail to Africa. On March 25 of that year, the Amistad was linked via satellite directly to the U.N. as the General Assembly voted to commemorate that date as the bicentennial of the pioneering British act that first outlawed the slave trade. Students from six countries sailed legs of the Africa voyage. Soon thereafter, the Amistad was designated as floating ambassador for the U.N. Permanent Memorial to Honour the Victims of Slavery and the Atlantic Slave Trade. The boat's most recent port of call was Santo Domingo, for a week of programs for youths from the Dominican Republic and Haiti.

During the two months after the current Caribbean tour, the vessel will visit five cities historically linked to the 19th century slave trade: Savannah, Charleston, Norfolk, Washington, DC and Baltimore. The next heritage tour will include visits this summer to Boston, Halifax and seven Great Lakes ports, culminating in Chicago. In December, the Amistad sails back to Africa, including for celebrations of the 50th anniversary of the independence of Senegal. But for now, all eyes are on Cuba.

THE RUNAWAY SCRAPE

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 25, 2010

Mr. POE of Texas. Madam Speaker, today I would like to recognize a large group of heroines who played a great role in Texas' history—the strong and brave women who contributed to the successful escape from their hometowns as Santa Anna and his troops barreled forward after conquering the Alamo.

After the fall of the Alamo, word began to spread like wildfire across the territory. The horrific tales of the massacre at Goliad had proven that Santa Anna and his army would show no mercy, even for the women and children. While many families had already begun to flee as early as January 1836, the March 6 slaughter prompted widespread terror and the historic Runaway Scrape began.

Families wasted no time in gathering essentials and setting out towards the Sabine River and into the safe haven of Louisiana or Galveston Island. Many families left with food on the table, clothes on the line, and ran for their lives with little more than the clothes on their back. Most of the treacherous journey was led by women with their small children, as only the elderly and boys deemed by their mamas as too young to fight were still at home.

General Sam Houston and his boys were on the eastward move as well. By early April, Washington-on-the-Brazos was deserted and as General Sam marched on towards the Sabine, there was rarely a sole left behind him. With these areas unprotected, Texans that stayed behind faced certain death as Santa Anna pressed forward—if the Indians didn't get there first.

The only solace that the runaways had was that General Sam was between them and death. At the last meeting in the Alamo, Travis said: "If we hold the Alamo, it is a deed well done! If we fall with it, it is still a deed well done! We pledge our lives to give Houston and Fannin time to get between Santa Anna and the settlements!"

A deed well done indeed. But assured as they were that General Sam was bringing up the rear, they were faced with another unforeseen obstacle—the always unpredictable Texas weather. The cold and rainy spring wreaked havoc along the Runaway Scrape. The runways lacked the bare essentials of survival and many, mostly children, succumbed to the cold, disease and hunger.

I often talk about the heroes of our independence, but no finer example of heroics was displayed than on this historic exodus. This was the harshest journey of our fight for independence and it was only made possible by the sheer will and determination of the remarkable women that led the way.

There are countless stories of women who cared for the sick and diseased, sacrificed for the hungry, buried the dead, including their own children, and kept pressing on—never giving up. They were relentless in their mission and just as much a part of our independence as were their counterparts. As my grandmother always said, there is nothing more powerful than a woman that has made up her mind. And these women, these mothers of freedom, had made up their mind.

General Thomas Jefferson Rusk understood Texas women well: "The men of Texas deserved much credit, but more was due the women. Armed men facing a foe could not but be brave; but the women, with their little children around them, without means of defense or power to resist, faced danger and death with unflinching courage."

One such story recounts how one mother strapped a feather mattress to the back of a horse, tied her three young children on and led that horse by foot while carrying a baby on her hip. This was a prettier picture than most. As food and supplies were sparse, they also couldn't afford to have anything extra weigh

them down. The muddled trails to safety were littered with feathers from mattresses and discarded items too burdensome to carry.

As far as the eye could see, this was the scene along the Runaway Scrape. Most were starving, sick, and barely clothed. Make-shift graves lined the way and areas of high ground offered the only reprieve from the mud-soaked misery.

As General Sam and the boys crossed the San Jacinto, many of the runaways a step ahead faced a rising Trinity River to the east. The flooded waterway and river-bottoms forced them to seek shelter in the Liberty and Dayton settlements. Today, a historical marker along Highway 90 recognizes this historical part of our Texas history.

On the afternoon of April 21, 1836, the runaways taking refuge along the banks of the Trinity heard the faint sounds of cannon fire in the distance. Fearing the worst, the runaways wasted no time in ferrying the river and making their escape. Little did they know at the time, but General Sam and his rag-tag bunch of freedom fighters whipped a vastly larger Mexican army that was caught napping, captured Santa Anna and a new Republic of Texas was won.

Just as terror and panic had raged throughout the land, the news of victory and independence did as well. The cries from the battlefield: "Remember the Alamo!" "Remember Goliad!" were echoed along the now abandoned Runaway Scrape and met with: "San Jacinto!" "San Jacinto!"

Texas—one and indivisible.
And that's just the way it is.

HONORING CITY OF MADEIRA, OHIO

HON. JEAN SCHMIDT

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 25, 2010

Mrs. SCHMIDT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the centennial anniversary of the city of Madeira. Like most of Hamilton County, Madeira was part of the 248,000 acres of land that comprised the "Symmes Purchase" in the late 1700s.

The growth, history, and development of the Madeira was shaped by the completion of a rail line extension and the opening of a freight office in the heart of downtown Madeira in 1866. The Marietta and Cincinnati Railroad named the stop after its treasurer and local landowner, John Madeira. This freight station still stands and is home to Choo-Choo's Restaurant.

In 1910, Madeira was home to 500 residents and was incorporated as a village. Samuel K. Druce was the first Mayor, and the village council held its first meeting on August 10th of that same year.

By 1959, the Village of Madeira had grown to 6,500 and became a city. It adopted a charter form of government. In 1970, Madeira doubled in size and filled out its current geographical boundaries when the South Kenwood area was annexed.

Today, Madeira is home to more than 9,250 residents. Its vibrant downtown area is home to countless niche businesses, including fine dining and shopping. Its schools have earned an "Excellent" rating on the State Report Card

for 10 consecutive years, including the highest ranking of "Excellent with Distinction" in 2009. And in 2007, the Madeira City School District was awarded a Silver Medal by U.S. News and World Report, recognizing the high school as one of the best in the country.

Over the past 100 years, the city of Madeira has become one of the finest suburban communities in the Cincinnati region. It truly lives up to its motto, "Oppidum Amicum"—friendly town. Madam Speaker, please join me in celebrating this historic milestone and wish the city of Madeira continued success.

ALAMANCE CHRISTIAN WINS IT ALL

HON. HOWARD COBLE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 25, 2010

Mr. COBLE. Madam Speaker, on behalf of the citizens of the Sixth District of North Carolina, we wish to extend our congratulations to the Alamance Christian School's boys basketball team for winning its second State championship in 3 years. This team not only won the North Carolina Christian School Association 3A State championship, but they also broke a school record for wins in a season with 25.

Alamance Christian defeated Gospel Light 61–55 in overtime last month. The championship game featured resilience and a determination to win. With the game in overtime, Blake Marley made a clutch 3-point shot, while his teammates Will Shepherd and Brandyn Burns also came through for the team by excelling at the free throw line. The championship game win, as well as their phenomenal record, required great skill and athleticism, but Head Coach Jerry Bailey pointed to the boys love and care for each other as the secret to their success.

The championship team members are: Brandyn Burns, Jonathan Racke, Bud Hursey, Will Shepherd, Benton Tuck, Tyler VanNostrand, Anthony Winston, Thomas Klarr, Blake Marley, Kevin Avery, Philip Barker, Alan Barker, Cole Johnson, and Ethan Massey. The coaching staff was led by Coach Bailey and his able assistants Josh Howard and Brad Prentice.

Again on behalf of the Sixth District of North Carolina, we would like to congratulate the Alamance Christian School boys basketball team, the faculty, staff, students, and fans for an outstanding championship season. This team will be remembered in the history books for its record-breaking year and resilient win in the NCCSA championship game.

175TH ANNIVERSARY OF HIGHLAND TOWNSHIP, MICHIGAN

HON. THADDEUS G. MCCOTTER

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 25, 2010

Mr. MCCOTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 175th anniversary of Highland Township, Michigan on April 6, 2010.

On April 6, 1835, Highland Township held its first township meeting at a schoolhouse on

Jesse Tenny's farm. Since its founding, Highland Township has had a diverse history. Highland boasts a once-thriving cider, vinegar, and pickle industry and with the coming of railroads in Michigan, the unique Highland Station. More recently, Highland Township has constructed many resort cottages on area lakes. Also, due to the construction of highway M-59, residential and commercial development has grown in Highland Township.

Importantly, the residents of Highland Township have played an instrumental role in promoting and maintaining awareness of "Highland heritage" through their work with several historical and conservational groups such as the Highland Township Historical Society, Highland Land Conservancy, and Highland Beautification Committee.

Madam Speaker, as Highland Township celebrates its 175th anniversary, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring its residents and thanking them for their contributions to our community and our country.

RECOGNIZING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF THE VIRGINIA NATIONAL GUARD ON THE 66TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE NORMANDY INVASION

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 25, 2010

Mr. WOLF. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the contributions of the members of the Virginia-Maryland-District of Columbia National Guard on the occasion of the 66th anniversary of the Normandy Invasion and D-Day which will occur this June 6. I ask that my colleagues join me in recognizing the service and sacrifice of the members of this National Guard unit.

The Virginia-Maryland-District of Columbia National Guard unit was the only one from the United States to serve in the first wave of the Normandy Invasion on D-Day. Over 3,100 soldiers from this unit courageously served their country in Normandy, and there were 1,107 casualties in the invasion.

The 29th Infantry Division of the Virginia National Guard joined the 116th Infantry Regiment, also known as Virginia's "Stonewall Brigade," and the 111th Field Artillery Battalion in the assault on the Nazis on Omaha Beach on June 6, 1944. The Headquarters Company, 3rd Battalion, 116th Infantry Regiment is still based in Winchester, Virginia, and continues to send its troops to serve their country in Afghanistan and Iraq. A new National Guard Army opened last year in Frederick County and was named in honor of Staff Sgt. Craig W. Cherry and Sgt. Bobby E. Beasley, two local National Guardsmen who lost their lives in Afghanistan in 2004.

I submit for the RECORD the text of a joint resolution passed in the Virginia General Assembly in February, honoring this heroic unit of the National Guard:

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 292

OFFERED FEBRUARY 16, 2010

Commending the 29th Infantry Division of the Virginia-Maryland-District of Columbia National Guard and the Virginia communities represented in the Normandy Invasion on the 66th anniversary of D-Day.

Patrons—Sherwood, Abbitt, Abbott, Albo, Alexander, Anderson, Armstrong, Athey, BaCote, Barlow, Bell, Richard P., Bell, Robert B., Brink, Bulova, Byron, Carr, Carrico, Cleaveland, Cline, Cole, Comstock, Cosgrove, Cox, J.A., Cox, M.K., Crockett-Stark, Dance, Ebbin, Edmunds, Englin, Garrett, Gear, Gilbert, Greason, Griffith: Herring, Hope, Howell, A.T., Howell, W.J., Hugo, Iaquinto, Ingram, James, Janis, Joannou, Johnson, Jones, Keam, Kilgore, Knight, Kory, Landes, LeMunyon, Lewis, Lingamfelter, Lohr, Loupassi, Marshall, D.W., Marshall, R.G., Massie, May, McClellan, McQuinn, Merricks, Miller, J.H., Miller, P.J., Morefield, Morgan, Morrissey, Nixon, Nutter, O'Bannon, Oder, Orrock, Peace, Phillips, Plum, Pogge, Poindexter, Pollard, Purkey, Putney, Rust, Scott, E.T., Scott, J.M., Shuler, Sickles, Spruill, Stolle, Surovell, Tata, Torian, Toscano, Tyler, Villanueva, Ward, Ware, O., Ware, R.L., Watts and Wright

Whereas, June 6, 2010, is the 66th anniversary of the Normandy Invasion, commonly known as D-Day; this epic and decisive moment in World War II helped defeat Nazi rule in Europe and was the most massive military operation in world history; and

Whereas, the only National Guard division of the United States Army selected to participate in the initial assault on the coast of France was the 29th Infantry Division of the Virginia-Maryland-District of Columbia National Guard; this division was assigned as its objective that beach sector designated Omaha, which because of the fierce resistance encountered there soon became known as "Bloody Omaha"; and

Whereas, Virginia's historic "Stonewall Brigade," the 116th Infantry Regiment, was chosen to be in the first wave at Omaha and, after a bloody battle on the beach, finally succeeded in taking the high ground above it, and thus secured a beachhead in France; when "the Longest Day" ended, the courageous regiment of over 3,100 soldiers had suffered 1,107 casualties; and

Whereas, joining the 116th Infantry Regiment in the assault was Virginia's 111th Field Artillery Battalion and other smaller units from the Virginia National Guard, all elements of the 29th Infantry Division. and

Whereas, the Virginia communities represented in the D-Day Invasion were:

116TH INFANTRY REGIMENT (STONEWALL BRIGADE)

Headquarters and Headquarters Company—Roanoke

Anti-Tank Platoon—Roanoke
Medical Department Detachment—Staunton & Wytheville
Service Company—Roanoke

Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion—Roanoke

Company A—Bedford
Company B—Lynchburg
Company C—Harrisonburg
Company D—Roanoke

Headquarters Company, 2nd Battalion—Altavista

Company E—Chase City
Company F—South Boston
Company G—Farmville
Company H—Martinsville

Headquarters Company, 3rd Battalion—Winchester

Company I—Winchester
Company K—Charlottesville
Company L—Staunton
Company M—Emporia

29th Infantry Division Band (Virginia portion)—Roanoke

29th Signal Company—Norfolk

29th Cavalry Reconnaissance Troop—Berryville

Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, 29th Infantry Division Artillery—Richmond

111TH FIELD ARTILLERY BATTALION (FIRST VIRGINIA ARTILLERY)

Headquarters and Headquarters Battery—Norfolk

Service Battery—Newport News
Battery A—Richmond
Battery B—Norfolk
Battery C—Portsmouth

227TH FIELD ARTILLERY BATTALION (FORMERLY 2ND BATTALION, 111TH FIELD ARTILLERY)

Headquarters and Headquarters Battery—Richmond

Service Battery—post mobilization organization—no Virginia community
Battery A—Hampton
Battery B—Richmond
Battery C—Fredericksburg

Whereas, many brave individuals participated in the Normandy Invasion and all who worked so hard and fought so valiantly are honored as heroes; and

Whereas, General George C. Marshall, U.S. Army Chief of Staff, helped plan the Allied invasion of France; he graduated from the Virginia Military Institute as First Captain of the Corps of Cadets in 1901; and

Whereas, a former commander of the 29th Infantry Division, Lieutenant General Leonard Gerow was promoted to command the V Corps (Fifth Corps), made up of the 1st and 29th Infantry Divisions, which were the first troops to land on Omaha Beach; he was a native of Petersburg and a graduate of the Virginia Military Institute, Class of 1911; and

Whereas, on June 8, 1944, Technical Sergeant Frank D. Peregory of Charlottesville's Company K, from the 116th Infantry Regiment, single-handedly killed or captured over 25 enemy soldiers, earning the Congressional Medal of Honor, only to be killed in action six days later; and

Whereas, a graduate of The Citadel's Class of 1929 and a teacher and coach at Staunton Military Academy, Major Thomas D. Howie of Staunton's Company L, best known as "the Major of St Lo," was killed in action on July 17, 1944, while in command of the 3rd Battalion, 116th Infantry, during its final drive to capture the strategic city of Saint-Lô; and

Whereas, commander of the 111th Field Artillery Battalion, Lieutenant Colonel Thornton L. Mullins of Richmond, after his unit lost all of its guns but one in the English Channel when its landing craft were either swamped or destroyed by enemy fire, was killed in action while leading a band of survivors and destroying several enemy positions; he was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross, the U.S. Army's second highest award for valor; and

Whereas, today, the 116th Infantry Regiment and other Virginia National Guard units of soldiers and airmen maintain a proud tradition with troops deployed in harm's way in the War on Terrorism, such as the mobilization to Iraq of the 1st Battalion, 116th Infantry on January 6, 2010, and two deployments to Afghanistan of the 3rd Battalion, 116th Infantry accompanied by several Embedded Transition Teams drawn from across the Virginia Army Guard, including the 116th Infantry's Brigade Combat Team; and

Whereas, since the start of the current wars in Afghanistan and Iraq, nearly 10,000 men and women of the Virginia National Guard have served in one or both conflicts,

many on multiple tours, and a total of 13 members have died on active duty protecting our liberties, and it is fitting we honor and remember their service and sacrifices; and

Whereas, the Commonwealth of Virginia and its citizens are indebted to and thankful for the D-Day soldiers, their successors in the ranks of the Virginia National Guard today, and their families for their valiant service and enormous sacrifice; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly commend the 29th Infantry Division of the Virginia-Maryland-District of Columbia National Guard and the Virginia communities represented in the Normandy Invasion on the 66th anniversary of D-Day that occurred on June 6, 1944, honoring the brave troops who served there, especially the soldiers of the Stonewall Brigade, 116th Infantry Regiment who fought in the first wave of attack and the 11th Field Artillery Battalion, both of which are a part of the 29th Infantry Division; and, be it

Resolved further, That the General Assembly acknowledge the efforts of the Virginia National Guard to commemorate the Normandy Invasion with a Day of Awareness to remind Virginians of the sacrifices made to preserve their freedoms by those who fought on D-Day and by the men and women of the Virginia National Guard who continue to fight around the world to protect liberty for their countrymen; and, be it

Resolved finally, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Major General Robert B. Newman, Jr., the Adjutant General of Virginia, on behalf of the General Assembly in recognition of the soldiers of the 29th Infantry Division of the Virginia-Maryland-District of Columbia National Guard and the Virginia communities represented in the Normandy Invasion who fought at Normandy and on into the heart of Germany to help bring about the final victory over Nazi tyranny.

ON THE PASSAGE OF NEW MEXICO'S HISPANIC EDUCATION ACT

HON. MARTIN HEINRICH

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 25, 2010

Mr. HEINRICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to New Mexico's Hispanic Education Act.

Signed by the governor on March 10, 2010, this law sets into motion a multi-pronged approach to bring the community together to tackle the growing achievement gap that exists between Hispanic students and their peers. It is the first such law of its kind anywhere in the country, and it is my hope that it will not be the last.

I believe that the single greatest challenge facing New Mexico's educational achievement is the fact that though 56 percent of our state's students are Hispanic, barely half of them graduate from high school. Given that education is the key to achieving our full potential as individuals and as a country, we must realize that not all education is equal. We must look at the challenges that face all our students. This disparity is too great to do nothing. The time has come to confront this disparity head on, and this is exactly what the Hispanic Education Act will do.

I would like to congratulate New Mexico Governor Bill Richardson, State Senator Ber-

nadette Sanchez, State Representative Rick Miera, and Education Secretary Veronica Garcia for having the courage to champion the Hispanic Education Act. But they certainly were not alone in shepherding this bill through the state legislature. Indeed, this legislation was initiated by the countless parents, community advocates, business leaders, school administrators, and policy makers who gave their time and energy to this effort. It was their advocacy, in concert with the Latino/Hispanic Education Improvement Task Force, which made passage possible.

It is my hope that the goals set forth in this landmark legislation are achieved quickly. It is also my hope that other states follow New Mexico's lead. And it will be my intention to work with my colleagues here in Congress to find ways on a national level to promote Hispanic educational success. For if we are to excel in a 21st Century economy, then all students of all backgrounds must have the chance to finish high school, attend college, and go on to be productive, successful Americans.

HONORING JEANNE JACOBS

HON. MARIO DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 25, 2010

Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Jeanne Jacobs, accomplished educator and President of Miami Dade College's Homestead Campus.

As administrator of the College, she has advanced the mission of the institution and brought national attention to South Dade. In addition to her leadership role at Miami Dade College, Jeanne serves on the Board of Directors of Homestead Hospital and in several community organizations, including the Executive Council of the Homestead/Florida City Chamber of Commerce, the Senior Advisory Council of the Red Cross, and the Vision Council of Homestead. She holds a Doctor of Philosophy degree in Administration of Higher Education with a minor in English from the University of Alabama.

This month, Miami Dade County Mayor Carlos Alvarez, the Miami Dade Commission for Women, and Miami-Dade Parks and Recreation honored Jeanne at their annual "In the Company of Women" Awards Ceremony, a well-known recognition and high distinction in the South Florida community.

As we celebrate Women's History Month, I too honor and recognize Jeanne for her contributions to and achievements in the fields of education and research. Her leadership has truly made a difference in the lives of students and has taken this fine institution of higher learning on a continued path of excellence.

HONORING ELLA SECCHIAROLI FOR WINNING THE LESSONS OF THE AFRICAN-AMERICAN EXPERIENCE WRITING CONTEST

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 25, 2010

Mr. COURTNEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Ella Secchiaroli as a win-

ner of the first annual "Lessons of the African-American Experience" Creative Writing Contest. Ella is currently in the fifth grade at North Stonington Elementary School, which is located in North Stonington, Connecticut.

In celebration of Black History Month, I sponsored a creative writing contest for all third through eighth grade students within the Second District. As we know, Black History Month is a time to reflect on the struggles and triumphs of our nation's past. The lessons learned during this month continue to serve as the stepping stones of our nation's future. Ella's poem eloquently embraces this belief.

Ella's poem shows a remarkable enthusiasm for learning that is inspiring to all. She identified the values that she learned during Black History Month and creatively discussed how those values affect her life and the lives of others. For this, her poem was among the four winners selected.

MR. DICK BUNCE

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 25, 2010

Ms. LEE of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Dick Bunce for more than three decades of tireless work to advance the causes of peace, nuclear disarmament, democracy and conservation. Today, we recognize the quality and excellence of Mr. Bunce's career on the occasion of his retirement.

Known for his invaluable leadership and service to organizations here, and around the globe, Mr. Bunce's early life took place in New Orleans, Louisiana. After graduate work in sociology at the University of Wisconsin, Mr. Bunce began accumulating a breadth of media experience. His long career in fundraising, marketing, media and research includes a book, "Television in the Corporate Interest," as well as leadership posts at Bay Area stalwarts such as Mother Jones magazine, Pacifica Radio and the Center for Social Research and Education at the University of California, Berkeley.

In addition to his media savvy, Mr. Bunce's skillful fundraising efforts have both enriched worthy organizations, and changed the face of the Bay Area. In fact, San Francisco residents and visitors from around the world enjoy the beautiful result of one of Mr. Bunce's most ambitious fundraising projects. His management of a \$35 million campaign transformed a former military airstrip and ordnance dump in San Francisco's Presidio into a popular urban national park site known as Crissy Field.

Following that endeavor, Mr. Bunce joined the Ploughshares Fund, founded by legendary San Franciscan Sally Lienthal. His work included expanding Ploughshares Fund annual fundraising efforts, planned giving and endowment campaigns.

As Deputy Director, Mr. Bunce implemented the first-ever capital campaigns for both Ploughshares Fund and the Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy, overshooting his goals and raising more than \$60 million to reduce nuclear threats and enhance park lands.

As friends and colleagues know, Mr. Bunce's profound dedication to peace and conservation efforts extends beyond his fundraising prowess. In his free time, he has

served on a number of boards, including the Pesticide Action Network and, currently, the Point Reyes National Seashore Association.

In all of his many vocations, Mr. Bunce has been praised for his strategic brilliance, strong leadership, tenacity and thoughtfulness. His work has created innumerable opportunities for organizations and communities to continue the work of building a better, safer future for generations to come.

On behalf of the residents of California's 9th Congressional District, Mr. Dick Bunce, I salute you. I congratulate you on your many achievements, and I wish you and your family all the best in this next chapter of your life.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JERROLD NADLER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 25, 2010

Mr. NADLER of New York. Madam Speaker, due to official business, I missed a vote on March 10, 2010. Had I been able to, I would have voted "aye" on rollcall vote No. 100, expressing condolences to the families of the victims of the February 27, 2010, earthquake in Chile, as well as solidarity with and support for the people of Chile as they plan for recovery and reconstruction.

HONORING ANDREA IVORY

HON. MARIO DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 25, 2010

Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Andrea Ivory of Miami Lakes, the Founder and Executive Director of the Florida Breast Health Initiative and a breast cancer survivor.

In late 2006, Mrs. Ivory, along with her husband Willie Ivory, started the organization, which is dedicated to educating women about the importance of breast health and provides them with the resources to battle the disease. The group works to reach out to uninsured women in low-income areas who cannot afford mammograms. Staff and volunteers have knocked on more than 20,000 doors in neighborhoods throughout Miami including Miami Gardens, Opa-locka, Hialeah and Northwest Miami-Dade and have offered women the opportunity to be screened in mobile mammogram units and receive other low-cost services. To date, they have facilitated over 600 free or low-cost mammograms, and as a result, discovered four cases of cancer.

Today, Andrea has been cancer free for five years and her work and dedication to serving others in the community has been recognized by several news outlets and organizations. In 2009, she was selected as one of CNN's Top 10 Heroes of 2009 and was also featured in our home town newspaper, the Miami Herald.

As we celebrate Women's History Month, I ask you to join me in thanking Andrea Ivory for her commitment to creating awareness about breast cancer and ensuring that other women have access to care. I also congratulate her on her personal strength and willingness to overcome breast cancer.

GEORGE GREEOTT

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 25, 2010

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life of George Greeott, who in his 100th year in Sonoma County, California, has made innumerable contributions to his community and has unquestionably left his mark on the history of this part of my district.

He has earned many titles, Sonoma County's Renaissance Man—farmer, inventor, artist, blacksmith, school board member, collector of Native American artifacts, horseshoe champion, loving husband and devoted father—and the Duke of (the Town of) Windsor in 2007 among them.

Mr. Greeott was born in Santa Rosa, the county seat of Sonoma County, on April 30, 1910, the son of Italian immigrants. He began ranching with his father in the Chalk Hill Valley in 1928 and raised prunes, apples and grapes, as well as sheep and horses over the following 70 years. He met and married his wife Isabel Sicco, the daughter of a local chicken farmer, in the 1930s and together they had four children.

Mr. Greeott owned several patents that made ranching life easier for his family and his neighbors. His "Fence-Tight" helped crimp and tighten wire fencing and was a big seller in the Thorson Tool Company catalogue. One of his non-farming inventions, the "Greeott Grabber," helped him win numerous horseshoe tournaments before he retired from competition at the age of 93, while he was still on top.

His unique metal sculptures and woodcarvings are permanently housed in the Windsor Museum, for which he established the Windsor Historical Society Endowment Fund. His collections of Pomo Indian artifacts and vintage tools and bottles used in the early days of the wine industry have been donated to other museums throughout Sonoma County.

Madam Speaker, George Greeott is loved and respected by his community, who will help him celebrate his 100th birthday. It is appropriate that we send our best wishes to this truly remarkable man.

HONORING MARIA CRISTINA ANDREU REGUEIRO

HON. MARIO DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 25, 2010

Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Maria Cristina Andreu Regueiro, Co-Founder and President of Florida National College in Hialeah.

Maria Cristina Andreu Regueiro was born in Havana, Cuba. After living in New York for 10 years, she moved to Palm Springs North in 1973. She attended the University of Miami, and after graduating, joined her late husband Jose in carrying out his dream of providing educational opportunities to the growing Hispanic community in South Florida. In 1986,

they opened Florida National College in Hialeah. Today, the College serves more than 3,000 students, has more than 20,000 graduates, and is spread across Miami-Dade County with three locations and a distance learning program online.

Maria Christina has been instrumental in assisting minority students achieve their educational goals. What began as her husband's dream, has become a reality and an opportunity for thousands. She currently serves on the Mayor's Educational Advisory Board for the city of Hialeah and is a member of the Board of the South Florida Workforce. She has also been a member of the State of Florida Community Hospital Education Council, a commissioner for the Commission for Independent Education of the Florida Department of Education, and various other community organizations that promote education.

As we celebrate Women's History Month, I ask you to join me in thanking Maria Cristina Regueiro for her commitment to serving others, and her determination and hard work, which have allowed her to achieve her dreams. I also ask that you join me in remembering her late husband, Jose Regueiro, who also made a commitment to our community and dedicated his life to making education and opportunity a reality for many.

SMALL BUSINESS AND INFRA- STRUCTURE JOBS ACT OF 2010

SPEECH OF

HON. JAMES R. LANGEVIN

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 24, 2010

Mr. LANGEVIN. Madam Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 4849, the Small Business and Infrastructure Jobs Act, which is another step forward in helping Rhode Island's small businesses and creating jobs.

This measure would exclude 100 percent of small business capital gains, increase the tax deduction for start-up expenditures from \$5,000 to \$20,000, and provide small business penalty relief. These provisions will encourage the formation of new businesses and allow small businesses to grow and hire more workers.

H.R. 4849 also extends the Build America Bonds program, which was part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act and has been successful in helping our state and local governments finance the rebuilding of schools, sewers, hospitals and transit projects.

Finally, today's bill extends the TANF Emergency Fund, which has helped states fund a jobs program that subsidizes employers, including small businesses, who hire unemployed workers. This program has put over 160,000 Americans back to work, and a program in Rhode Island should go into effect shortly.

Congress is committed to more action on creating jobs and helping our small businesses, which are the backbone of our nation's economy, and I urge my colleagues to support this measure.

RECOGNIZING AMY DAVIS AS THE HURLBURT AFA CHAPTER 398 ELEMENTARY SCHOOL TEACHER OF THE YEAR

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 25, 2010

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Ms. Amy Davis upon receiving the Hurlburt Air Force Association Chapter 398's Elementary School Teacher of the Year Award for 2010. Ms. Davis' students have truly benefited from her inventive lessons and the passion she exudes for her profession. I am honored to acknowledge her contributions today.

Amy teaches third grade at Kenwood Elementary School in Okaloosa County, Florida. In her six years of teaching she has enthusiastically pursued opportunities to develop lessons that motivate student learning. For instance, Amy was inspired to introduce aviation sciences into her classroom after attending a Teacher Workshop hosted by the Hurlburt Air Force Association. Amy thoughtfully incorporated flight charts into her lessons in order to teach her students how to measure distances and angles. Likewise, Amy enhances her lessons with space-related material inspired by a Space Camp for Teachers she attended in Huntsville, Alabama. Her method of combining tangible materials and advanced concepts in every lesson has greatly promoted student success. Amy has recently received her certification as a Gifted Instructor and is working toward her National Board Certification, with which I wish her the best of luck.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I proudly recognize Amy Davis as the Hurlburt AFA Chapter 398 Elementary School Teacher of the Year. Her passion for learning truly makes her a great asset to her students and colleagues. Vicki and I wish Amy and her family all the best for the future.

ENERGY JOBS FOR VETERANS ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 22, 2010

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of our brave men and women in the Armed Forces who are returning to our nation in increased numbers to find that their prospects are limited because they have chosen to fight for our security and safety. I would also like to commend the Honorable BOB FILNER in the House Veterans' Affairs Committee for his commitment to recognizing the importance of our veterans' military sacrifices and patriotism.

It is our duty as a nation and government to protect those who have so valiantly fought for our freedoms. Our objectives should be to ensure that they are included in the process of growing our economy in the most vital way possible: procuring employment. Not only should we fight for their inclusion but also provide them tools they need to compete in the job market, whether it be psychological counseling for the traumas they experience while in

combat or job training to bolster the unique skill sets they have acquired during their time in the service.

The House Veterans' Affairs Committee has embarked on the process of increasing the employment prospects for our veterans through the National Guard Employment Protection Act of 2009 and H.R. 4592, which funds the establishment of a pilot program encouraging veteran employment in energy-related positions. Not only do these pieces of legislation affect veterans but also their families and those that depend on them. The cost of living in this country is on the rise, and important pieces of legislation like the Veterans' Compensation Cost of Living Adjustment Act of 2010 would make sure veterans' compensation keeps apace. Our veterans are men and women who have chosen to give up their lives, jobs and seeing their families for the sake of serving and defending our nation. It is unseemly that when they return they face unemployment.

The fact that unemployment is currently at an all-time high has not been lost to our veterans returning home. Instead of being welcomed with open arms by this country, they are faced with the double fear of not finding employment while worrying about how to keep their homes and pay their mortgages. The Veterans' Affairs Committee has sought to remedy this situation by introducing the Helping Heroes Keep their Homes Act of 2009, which aims to stem the tide of veterans losing their homes, and worse, ending up homeless.

At any given time, our nation is faced with 107,000 homeless veterans. While this number is considerably lower than it was a few years ago, any one homeless veteran is one too many. It is a disservice to our veterans for us not to assist them in acquiring permanent homes. The End Veteran Homelessness Act of 2010 seeks to rectify this important issue by increasing the funding available for helping our homeless veterans. I believe that the passage of this legislation would substantially improve the plight of our homeless veterans and potentially place them on the track to having a place to call home. Our veterans deserve the most from us and I am committed to working with Congress to get the job done.

HONORING LOIS JONES

HON. MARIO DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 25, 2010

Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable woman who has dedicated her life to public service and political activism, Ms. Lois Jones.

Educated in Kingston, Jamaica, Ms. Jones then made California her home, serving 23 years in the California Legislature. During her tenure, she was a liaison to the African American Community and played an active role in exposing high school and college students to the legislative process through internships. Years later she moved to Florida where she has been involved in a number of issues ranging from small business development to public relations and international trade. She is very active in our community, always engaging with minority groups, religious groups and civic

leaders, and working to help advance their priorities.

For nine years, Ms. Jones served as Jamaican Honorary Consul in California. She was appointed by the Prime Minister of Jamaica and worked on several issues including international trade. Ms. Jones is also a featured writer, frequenting opinion pages in newspapers across the country and expressing her views on community empowerment and public policy issues.

Currently Ms. Jones serves as a member of the City of Homestead Charter Review Committee and is involved in various community organizations including the City of Homestead Education Committee, the City of Homestead Mayor's Youth Council, the State Partnership for School Safety & Security, the Greater Miami Chamber of Commerce, and the Association of Women Business Owners, to name a few.

As we celebrate Women's History Month, I ask you to join me in congratulating Ms. Lois Jones for her invaluable contributions, dedication to and leadership in our community.

ON THE PASSING OF SAM HAMILTON, 15TH DIRECTOR OF THE U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

HON. JOHN D. DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 25, 2010

Mr. DINGELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Sam Hamilton, the Director of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, who we lost on February 20, 2010. Sam's work was that of a champion—the guardians of our environment are the stewards of what we leave to our descendants and they deserve unending praise. I never knew or needed to ask if Sam was a Democrat, Republican, or Independent because he worked with everyone and was a biologist first. If I can try to sum up his character, I will have to quote the man himself when he said:

My greatest challenge is to help bring conservationists, hunters, anglers, landowners, state and federal agencies, and business people together to help us conserve and enhance what makes America great—our treasured wildlife resources.

His work for conservation and collaboration was driven by sound science, and his affection for the environment was unrivaled. Sam Hamilton devoted his career and over 30 years of his life to service within the United States Fish and Wildlife Service. In fact, Sam's first involvement with the agency came when he was 15 years old as a member of the Youth Conservation Corps in Mississippi. Near Starkville, Mississippi, where he grew up, Sam learned the importance of managing a wildlife habitat while banding wood ducks and Canadian geese to build waterfowl pens.

In 1991, Sam became the first Fish and Wildlife Service State Administrator in Austin, Texas. While there, Sam held strong in his commitment to protect the golden-cheeked warbler from further endangerment. Years later, Sam went on to work on the restoration of the coastal wetlands and wildlife habitats along the Gulf Coast after hurricanes Katrina and Rita. Sam was nominated in June 2009

by President Obama to be the 15th director of the Service. Three months later, as he was being sworn in, he reaffirmed his commitment to addressing the threat of climate change, habitat fragmentation, invasive species, limited water supplies, and the illicit trade of wildlife. Perhaps he put it best when he said, "as wild-life goes, so goes the nation."

Sam Hamilton was loved by all conservationists. He leaves behind his wife, Becky; two sons, Sam, Jr. and Clay; and grandson Davis. I am proud to have known Sam D. Hamilton, and to be able to help carry on his vision here in Congress. I ask my colleagues to stand and join me in celebrating his achievements and remembering his legacy as a person who embodied the very best of the American spirit.

HONORING THE MEMORY OF
COMMISSIONER DUPONT L. DAVIS

HON. G.K. BUTTERFIELD

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 25, 2010

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of DuPont L. Davis who served the people of Hertford County, North Carolina for many years as County Commissioner and civic leader. Well known for his passion, deep caring and unapologetically speaking his mind, DuPont Davis helped make a difference in the lives of countless citizens.

Commissioner Davis was first elected to the Hertford County Board of Commissioners in November of 1988. Since that time he has often served as Chairman of the Board, been recognized as North Carolina Commissioner of the Year and served as President of the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners.

Commissioner Davis was a person of faith. He was an active member of Zion Grove Missionary Baptist Church of Aulander, North Carolina. He was also a member of Jerusalem Lodge No. 96 of Prince Hall Masons, Ahoskie, North Carolina and was past Master of the Lodge.

Commissioner Davis was my dear friend of many years and I am saddened by his loss. Without question, he was a devoted public servant with an unsurpassed drive and passion to improve the lives of people in his community. He was an irreplaceable asset to Hertford County and to the state of North Carolina.

Commissioner Davis is survived by his wife Earline Powell Davis, and sons Derrick Davis and Dexter Davis, and daughters, Donica Davis Thompson and Dedria Davis King.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in expressing remorse at the passing of one of North Carolina's finest public servants, a man who was one of the State's most admired and respected elected officials. His passion, perseverance and dedication should serve as an inspiration to us all.

AMISTAD SAILS TO HAVANA
HARBOR

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 25, 2010

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, today is a proud day for the Mystic Seaport Museum and the city of New London, as our freedom schooner *Amistad* prepares to sail into Havana Harbor as a floating goodwill ambassador. The *Amistad*'s visit to Cuba culminates its current Caribbean Heritage Tour to help commemorate the United Nations-designated date of March 25 as a Day of Remembrance for the victims of the Atlantic slave trade.

The 19th century *Amistad* Incident ultimately led to a profoundly important U.S. Supreme Court decision that arguably turned the tide against slavery itself. The ship serves as a global icon of racial tolerance and a platform for serious examination of shared history across Africa, Europe, the Caribbean and the United States. Today, the world is watching as the *Amistad* sails into Havana Harbor to set new milestones for diplomacy and remembrance. Today, from New London to the Caribbean, we honor our common heritage and wish the *Amistad* fair winds and following seas.

The following is a story from the New London Day:

AMISTAD IS SAILING BACK TO WHERE ITS
STORY BEGAN

(By Ted Mann Day)

HAVANA.—Over a breakfast of melon, eggs and thick, dark Cuban coffee, Quentin Snediker, Maureen Hennessy and William Pinkney seem barely able to stand the wait for the coasting schooner *Amistad* and its crew to arrive in Cuba.

It is a wait older than the ship itself, says Snediker, who was the project coordinator of the design and construction of the *Amistad* for Mystic Seaport.

"To complete the story, we always felt the vessel had to return here," he said on Sunday morning, as he and Pinkney, who was the first in command of the ship when it launched nearly 10 years ago, prepared for a press conference at the Museo Nacional de Bellas Artes to announce the *Amistad*'s impending historic visit to Cuba.

"Here" means Havana, the Cuban capital and trading center, where the African captives who would make the *Amistad* famous were auctioned illegally in 1839 as slaves in violation of the Spanish and English treaties banning the international slave trade, and bound for the eastern agricultural districts that made Cuba a power in the sugar and coffee trade.

Brought to Havana on a slave ship after being taken captive in Sierra Leone, the 53 men and boys were transferred to the *Amistad*, a modest vessel that transported goods and freight along the Cuban coastline.

In an ornate, wood-paneled room at the Museo Nacional, Cuban historian Miguel Barnet, Pinkney and Snediker took turns reviewing the subsequent twists of the *Amistad* story for a crowd of about 45 journalists from the Cuban national press, American TV networks and the BBC.

Despite the 1807 passage of the Wilberforce Act—whose anniversary, now the United Nations' international day of commemoration for victims of the slave trade, the *Amistad* will mark with its formal arrival in Havana on Thursday—Cuba's booming sugar and cattle businesses precipitated a dependence on human slavery.

It was a case of "negocios sucios," or "dirty business," Barnet said, but one into which leaders in Cuba and in its colonial patron, Spain, felt driven by necessity. "Both the Spaniards and the Cubans needed fresh hands," he said.

The *Amistad* never reached its destination. The leader of the captives, known as Cinque to his Spanish-speaking handlers, led a revolt that would change not just the history of slavery in Cuba and the Spanish empire, but also in the United States.

Picking the locks of their shackles with a nail, the captives seized the ship and killed most of the crew, including Captain Ramon Ferrer, with machetes. The remaining crew members were ordered to steer the *Amistad* back to Africa—away from the setting sun.

But as those crew members tried to sabotage Cinque and the Africans, the *Amistad* zig-zagged up the east coast of the United States until it was captured off Montauk and towed into the Custom House in New London.

The captives, initially put on trial for the killings, would eventually be freed, after the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that since they had been taken from Africa in contravention of international treaties banning the slave trade, they could not be property.

Instead, the court ruled, Cinque and his countrymen were necessarily men, with a right to defend themselves against those who kept them captive.

The *Amistad*'s visit resonates not just with its historical legacy; it is also, Hennessy noted, a rare opportunity for open interchange between the Cuban and U.S. nations, at a time when their respective governments remain at uneasy odds. Hennessy, who, like Snediker, was taking time off from her work at the Mystic Seaport to meet the *Amistad* and its crew as they arrive in Matanzas today, said the group met over the weekend with officials from the Cuban Ministry of Culture.

The ministry plans to broadcast Steven Spielberg's 1997 film "Amistad" on one of the state-run television channels Tuesday night, in an attempt to drum up popular interest in the ship's visit.

As the press conference concluded Saturday morning, journalists descended on the *Amistad* representatives, particularly Pinkney, wanting to know if this combined diplomatic effort of the State Department, United Nations and Cuban officials represented a new thawing in mutual relations.

The visit comes months after the incoming Obama administration relaxed travel restrictions and other facets of the nearly 50-year U.S. embargo of Cuba, but significant tensions still persist. Billboards on the highway into Havana from Jose Marti International Airport depict the mug shots of Cuban prisoners held in the United States—without cause, according to the Cuban government. And U.S. commentators continue to raise questions about the Cuban government's policies, including its economic system and approach to dissidents.

But the *Amistad* represents shared strands of history, said Barnet, the Cuban historian and writer, and the American visitors agreed.

While interviewers continually asked him variations of the question "can this be a step" toward normalization, Pinkney said, this visit transcends the political considerations that have divided the two countries.

"Now they're completing the *Amistad* story by coming into Havana, where it all started," he said. "Here, we have nothing to express but the solidarity of humankind."

RECOGNIZING SANDY PALMER AS
THE HURLBURT AFA CHAPTER
398 TEACHER OF THE YEAR

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 25, 2010

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Sandy Palmer upon receiving the Hurlburt Air Force Association Chapter 398's Overall Teacher of the Year Award for 2010. Ms. Palmer has been a dedicated educator for 27 years, and I am proud to recognize her achievement.

Currently teaching third grade at Shalimar Elementary School in Okaloosa County, Florida, Sandy has taught at every grade level and in a variety of subjects over the course of her illustrious career. She is known for her enthusiasm for and commitment to incorporating space and aviation into her daily classroom instruction. After attending Space Camp for Teachers in 2001, Sandy changed her way of thinking to integrate these ideas into math and science curricula. She uses paper airplane construction to introduce concepts such as distance, angles, and measurements. Sandy also thinks outside the box to keep her students involved, including an annual play that involves launching the International Space Station. The performance provides parents with the unique opportunity to learn what their children are doing in the classroom with Ms. Palmer's innovative teaching methods. For her outstanding efforts, Sandy is this year's AFA Hurlburt Chapter nominee to the Florida State/Regional Teacher of the Year Competition.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I am humbled to recognize Sandy Palmer as the Hurlburt AFA Chapter 398 Overall Teacher of the Year. For 27 years, she has inspired her students and her colleagues, and she is highly deserving of this honor. Vicki and I wish Sandy and her family all the best for the future.

CONGRATULATING THE WINNERS
OF THE VALOR FOUNDATION'S
NATIONAL FIRST RESPONDERS
ESSAY COMPETITION

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 25, 2010

Mr. WOLF. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend the winners of the Valor Foundation's essay contest. I am honored to recognize the achievements of these students from Loudoun County and this excellent program in the 10th District of Virginia.

The Valor Foundation is an organization dedicated to partnering with individuals and organizations to support local community fire, rescue, and law enforcement groups. The dedicated work of this foundation supports numerous public safety officers and their families during their times of need. To recognize and celebrate these individuals, the foundation held a youth essay competition to honor the first responders.

To recognize the National First Responder Day, Loudoun County Middle School students were asked to submit essays describing, "Why

We Should Have a National First Responder's Appreciation Day." The Valor Foundation collaborated with Randy Kelly, CEO of INOVA Loudoun Hospital, to award five essay winners with savings bonds. I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating these outstanding students for their achievements, as well as the dedication of the first responders of Loudoun County.

I submit for the winning essays:

Tommy Mai, Belmont Ridge Middle School:

First responders are brave people. They sacrifice their lives just to save other lives at any cost. Whether it's a fire, medical emergency, or a shoot-out, they'll put anything and everything on the line. Think about a jailhouse without police guards, or a burning building without fire fighters coming to the rescue, or hospitals without doctors, nurses, and paramedics. Think about what would have happened during 9/11 without these brave people. Who can think of braver people. They sacrifice their lives for their families, for us, but more importantly, for America.

Ananda Bhatia, Eagle Ridge Middle School:

Every day a crime is committed. Every day a house catches on fire. Every day a person is hurt, a purse is stolen—someone risks their life for someone else! Emergency Responders help people when they need it most. When lives are at risk—they're there for you. Without them, thousands of people wouldn't be here right now. Someone who runs into burning buildings deserves equal respect as someone in the military. Fire fighters, police officers, medical responders, deputies—they deserve respect—and a holiday of their own. I believe Emergency Responders Day would be perfect—and I'm sure many other thankful citizens agree.

Diego Loya, Farmwell Station Middle School:

Who was there to help the victims of 9/11 on that horrific day? Who were first to rescue and help others during and after that tragic event? These people are not the heroes we normally think of with swords, spears or protective armor. They are every day human beings doing what they love and putting themselves in harm's way for their country.

Police, ambulance workers, E. M. T's and firefighters are examples of first responders. They risk their lives to help others. Every day a fire starts or someone is hurt or the police are needed in our communities. Without their presence in our daily lives we would have so many worries. They deserve a day of honor. They desire to be honored and appreciated on First Responders' Day.

Maddie Klaff, Seneca Ridge Middle School:

Believe it or not, in 2007, a total of 181 law enforcement officers and 118 fire-fighters lost their lives while on duty. Because these people do their job, I can walk around feeling safe and protected. These first responders spend their time serving the public and are only minutes away in times of crisis. Many of them do this voluntarily and without pay.

I believe we should dedicate a holiday in honor of those who spend their days looking after us. Their lives are dedicated to protecting ours every day, so we should dedicate one day to recognize them.

Kyle Brown, Simpson Middle School:

Though situations like car accidents and medical emergencies bring grief and sorrow, it is good to know that there are people who are dedicated and trained to help. They are known as first responders. These heroes are

committed to helping others who need them when they can't fend for themselves. These unselfish people know that their lives are sometimes at risk, but they care about the safety of others. I stand for everyone when I say that these first responders deserve a day on which their fellow Americans can show them how much they appreciate their commitment to helping others.

HONORING CAPTAIN JEANETTE
SAID-JINETE

HON. MARIO DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 25, 2010

Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Captain Jeanette Said-Jinete, the first woman to be sworn in as a police officer and receive the rank of Captain in the Town of Medley Police Department.

Jeanette began her law enforcement career at the age of 19 with the city of Homestead Police Department. Years later, she joined the town of Medley and in 1984, was sworn in as the first female Medley Police Officer. In 1986 she became a detective and in 2002 was awarded Officer of the Year for her success in investigating and solving crimes. In 2004, Jeanette was assigned as the assistant to the mayor and a liaison for the police department and in June of last year, was promoted to captain, becoming the first female appointed to this rank and second in command of the police department.

Jeanette is also a member of the Police Honor Guard, the Miami Dade Association of Chiefs of Police, the Florida Police Chiefs Association, and the International Association of Chief of Police, and is a certified computer voice stress analyzer and a certified code enforcement officer.

Aside from her personal achievements in her career, Jeanette has been a driving force for Medley, obtaining numerous grants for public safety and homeland security equipment, and making possible funding for the town "Tot Lot", basketball court, and the Riverside Domino Park. She has also been instrumental in planning community events and ensuring the Town's participation and partnership with other local entities.

As we celebrate Women's History Month, I ask you to join me in thanking captain Jeanette Said-Jinete for her commitment to making the town of Medley a safe place to live, work and play, and congratulating her for her outstanding work ethic and personal achievements.

RECOGNIZING THE MIDLAND
SCHOOL D.A.R.E. GRADUATES

HON. SCOTT GARRETT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 25, 2010

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, today the Rochelle Park Police Department will hold its D.A.R.E. graduation ceremony with the fifth graders of the Midland School. The young people participating in this important program have made a commitment to say no to drugs, underage drinking, and

gang violence. They have done this with the support of Chief of Police Richard Zavinsky and D.A.R.E. Officer Douglas Arendacs.

Drug Abuse Resistance Education, or D.A.R.E., began as a small program in Los Angeles in 1983. Today, it is implemented in more than 75 percent of our Nation's school districts and in more than 43 other nations. This program allows children to defeat negative cultural influences by opening the lines of communication between law enforcement and youth, empowering students with confidence and courage to say no to drugs.

I am proud of the young men and women who participated in this program in Rochelle Park, and I would like to recognize them all for taking this step toward positive citizenship:

Jenna Alessi, Amna Bajwa, John Califano, Selena Cangialosi, Brittney Cappobianco, Britney Fischbach, John Gerber, Kevin Grieco, Karim Jassim, George Latko, Camron Mickens, Michael Palamara, Nire Rollins, Anthony Sorrentino, Gianni Veloz, Vraj Vyas, Lauren Abrams, Joshua Afocx, Yuna Chung, Jennifer Cichino, Lewyn Concepcion, Drew Every, Suraj Ghumwala, Matthew Kowalski, Alexandra Lehmbeck, Krishalei Locquiao, Samantha McElroy, Joseph Neu, Serena Nguyen, Kyle Ray, Ryan Lewis-Riley, Thadeja Richetts, Bruce Amundson, Kaitlyn Boylan, Heather Buse, Yusef Froogh, Cierra Gamble, T'Shawn Jennings, Owen Lapira, Lindsay Pacheco, Alyssa Poidomani, Steven Riley, Matthew Santana, Jesse Marie Sanzari, Christine Sawruk, Prince Seabrooks, Maicel Shenouda, Jason van der Wilt, Raymond Vasquez.

SUPPORTING THE PEOPLE OF PUERTO RICO AND THE U.S. VIRGIN ISLANDS

HON. DAN BURTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 25, 2010

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Madam Speaker, I rise tonight to encourage my colleagues to support H.R. 2122, a bill introduced by our colleague Delegate PIERLUISI to ensure that the cover-over tax levied on the rum exports from Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands are used for their original intended purpose; namely to promote the general welfare of the territories' citizens in addition to promoting overall economic development. Currently, the funds are being used, in my opinion, to unfairly support blatant corporate welfare for a foreign-owned company. We do not need to be sending our tax dollars to foreign corporations when we have record unemployment in this country.

Rum that is produced in either Puerto Rico or the U.S. Virgin Islands, and that is sold in the continental United States, is subject to the same Federal tax as rum produced in the States—roughly \$13.50 for each proof-gallon. However, in the case of the territories, the majority of the revenue is returned by the Federal government to the respective territory, and then the remainder is retained by the Federal government. This so-called “cover-over” tax provision—which has enjoyed strong bi-partisan support for many years—allows the territories to pay for important local programs.

Unfortunately, this provision is now being abused to award a sweetheart deal to the Brit-

ish alcohol distiller and importer Diageo. Under the terms of this sweetheart deal, London-based Diageo will receive 46 percent of the U.S. Virgin Islands' cover-over to pay for a new distillery. Madam Speaker, Diageo is worth roughly \$35 billion according to the latest figures. To give Diageo 46 percent of the funds intended for the general welfare of the people of the Virgin Islands, in my opinion, violates the spirit if not the letter of the law. If this type of manipulation is allowed, many experts believe, a race to the bottom will result, with the territories attempting to poach businesses from each other with larger and larger sweet-heart deals paid for by the cover-over funds.

For example, Puerto Rico currently receives about \$400 million in carry-over funds per year. From that pool of money, Puerto Rico pays about six percent to the company, Rums of Puerto Rico, and Puerto Rican law states that no more than 10 percent of the funds it receives from the rum cover-over program can be used to subsidize rum producers on the island. This is a reasonable approach. It ensures that Puerto Rico can attract businesses to the island while still having the resources to carry out public works projects.

H.R. 2122 carries forward this common-sense approach. Under the terms of the bill, either Puerto Rico or the U.S. Virgin Islands may use its cover-over funds to provide unfair subsidies to rum producers. Further, if it is determined by the Secretary of the Treasury that a territory has unfairly subsidized a rum producer, the Secretary can transfer some of the cover-over funds intended for that territory that provided the unfair subsidy to the territory that has been disadvantaged. The legislation defines “unfair” or “per se unreasonable” if the subsidy exceeds ten percent of the covered-over amount returned to the territory's treasury.

Madam Speaker, let us remember the original intent of the cover-over funds, which was to help the territories fund important civil programs for the benefit of the people of Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands. The purpose was most certainly not to provide corporate welfare to large foreign-owned conglomerates. H.R. 2122 will ensure that the original purpose of the cover-over tax—to advance the general welfare of the citizens—is being carried out. I urge my colleagues to support this common-sense bill.

50TH ANNIVERSARY OF CITY OF DAYTONA BEACH SHORES

HON. SUZANNE M. KOSMAS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 25, 2010

Ms. KOSMAS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the City of Daytona Beach Shores on its 50th Anniversary. Since its founding on April 22, 1960, the City of Daytona Beach Shores has been a resort and retirement community located on the barrier island bordered on the east side by the Atlantic Ocean and on the west side by the Intercoastal Waterway (Halifax River).

The City of Daytona Beach Shores has a storied history, featuring a pristine beach where famed race car drivers once vied to set world speed records. The Legends Walk of

Fame tribute features bricks dedicated to these famous drivers and the Otto Schultze Memorial is a tribute to the late City Councilman that includes the seven flags used in automobile racing. The City is also home to The Court of Flags, a rotating display of 12 flags representing the national originals of its residents and highlighting the cultural diversity that unifies our nation.

The citizens of Daytona Beach Shores also have a strong history of responsible governance and stewardship as evidenced most recently by the approval of a local tax to fund underground placement of all utility lines, thus mitigating damages from dangerous tropical storms.

To commemorate the 50th anniversary, the City will place items in a time capsule to be opened at the 75th anniversary of the City in 2035.

Living up to the City's motto of “a better life,” the residents of Daytona Beach Shores truly have enjoyed “50 years of a better life” since its founding on April 22, 1960.

On April 22, 2010, the 50th Anniversary of the City of Daytona Beach Shores, I encourage all residents to recognize and show their appreciation for the many memories and contributions of the community over the years.

HONORING THE WORK OF BARRY LUBOVISKI

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 25, 2010

Mr. GARAMENDI. Madam Speaker, I wanted to take this opportunity to honor the great work of Barry Luboviski. After serving for fifteen years as Secretary-Treasurer of the Building and Construction Trades Council of Alameda Council, Barry is stepping down for some much deserved rest and relaxation.

Barry's commitment to the working men and women of this country began when he joined the Iron Workers Union, Local 378 as an Apprentice in 1965. He became an active participant in union activities, and in 1981, he started teaching evening classes for the Iron Workers Apprenticeship Program.

In 1979, Barry was elected as a Delegate to the Building and Construction Trades Council of Alameda County, AFL-CIO, and he was later appointed to Chair the Political Action Committee of the Building Trades Council. There, he helped organize voter registration drives and membership education.

Soon he was elected to serve as an Executive Boardmember of the Iron Workers Union, Local 378 and continued to help lead his local union until being hired in 1991 by the California State Building and Construction Trades Council, AFL-CIO as an Organizer. After four years of effective service, he was elected in 1995 to the position of Secretary-Treasurer of the Building and Construction Trades Council of Alameda County, AFL-CIO.

It has been an honor to work with Barry these many decades, strengthening worker protections and forging a more just and equitable California. Let the record show that the working people of California are better off because of Barry's leadership.

HONORING MARTINA “TEENA”
BOREK

HON. MARIO DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 25, 2010

Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Martina “Teena” Borek, one of South Dade’s best known farmers, and a dedicated mother.

Teena grew up in a small fishing village in Newfoundland and would visit her aunt’s farm in South Dade during summer breaks. It is there where she met her late husband, Steven Borek, who came from one of Homestead’s oldest farming families. The two married and started their own farm, Steven Borek Farms. They also had two children, Steven Jr. and Michael. Unfortunately, Steven lost his life shortly thereafter in an accident on the family property and Teena was left to raise the children and run the farm. Despite the loss of her husband, and a lack of knowledge in farming, Teena managed to successfully continue the family business, which continues to thrive today. She has proven to be one of South Dade’s most innovative farmers, being Homestead’s first to use a linear irrigation system and a computer for her work. She does not shy away from using new technologies and products, has engaged in research efforts and has learned to follow the changing market, responding to demand and adapting her crop. Teena has also surpassed devastating freezes and the hit of Hurricane Andrew, which forced her to basically start from scratch.

Despite facing adversity on several occasions, Teena has not given up. Her hard work and passion coupled with her desire to succeed, have allowed her to be both a loving mother and savvy businesswomen. She is a leader in the agriculture industry and never fails to give back to our community. She has been involved with the Dade County Farm Bureau, the Florida Fruit and Vegetable Association, the Florida Tomato Growers Exchange, the Florida Heartland Heritage Foundation, the Florida Farm Bureau Labor Advisory Committee, South Dade High School Agricultural Advisory Council, Dade County Women in Agriculture and the Everglades Community Association, to name a few.

As we celebrate Women’s History Month, I ask you to join me in honoring Martina “Teena” Borek, a successful businesswoman, community leader and mother, who vowed to continue her husband’s legacy. Her story and accomplishments should serve as inspiration to others.

MOURNING THE LOSS OF THE
HONORABLE THOMAS H. KELLY

HON. THADDEUS G. McCOTTER

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 25, 2010

Mr. McCOTTER. Madam Speaker, today I rise to honor and mourn the extraordinary life of the honorable Thomas H. Kelly upon his passing at the age of 74.

Born on May 27, 1935, Tom Kelly was a man devoted to helping his fellow human beings through public service. In his lifetime,

Tom served as a teacher, Wayne City Councilman, Michigan State Representative; and he worked closely with the Wayne County Commission.

Regrettably, on March 24, 2010, Thomas Kelly passed from this earthly world to his eternal reward. He is survived by his beloved wife of 50 years, Bridget, and their four sons Thomas, Patrick, Michael and Kevin; and five grandchildren, Emma, Joseph, Carl, Kalen and Ava. Tom will also be ever remembered as a loving brother by Sister Anne Kelly.

Madam Speaker, Thomas Kelly was a loving husband, father and grandfather; an honorable and effective leader; and a true friend to all blessed to know him. Therefore, I ask my colleagues to join his family and our entire community in mourning Tom Kelly’s passing; and in honoring his exemplary service to Michigan and America.

RECOGNIZING MRS. ALICE JONES
NICKENS

HON. G.K. BUTTERFIELD

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 25, 2010

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Madam Speaker, on April 10, 2010, friends and family will gather to celebrate the birthday of Mrs. Alice Jones Nickens, a retired teacher who has had a tremendous impact on North Carolina’s First Congressional District. Born on April 14, 1904 in Winton, North Carolina, Mrs. Nickens will be celebrating her 106th birthday.

Affectionately known as “Miss Alice,” she earned a Bachelor’s degree from Hampton Institute—now known as Hampton University—and a Master’s degree from the University of Pennsylvania. Miss Alice taught second grade at C.S. Brown School in Winton, North Carolina for 47 years. And, after retiring, she served as a substitute teacher for 10 years.

She has been active in preserving the rich history of C.S. Brown School, formerly known as Chowan Academy and then Waters Training School. It was the State’s first secondary school for children of color, and Miss Alice’s mother, Annie Walden Jones, was the school’s first graduate. She has also played a key role in documenting and preserving the history of Winton, North Carolina and the surrounding communities.

Mrs. Nickens was a charter member of the C.S. Brown Cultural Arts Center. Along with her sister, Sally, Mrs. Nickens was instrumental in securing \$200,000 from the State to help restore the building.

She has long been a devoted member of Pleasant Plains Baptist Church, and served as a member of its trustee board.

Mrs. Nickens has also served as Vice President of the Democratic Women’s Club of Hertford County, and as a volunteer of the Auxiliary of Roanoke Chowan Hospital.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in recognizing Mrs. Alice Jones Nickens. She is truly a remarkable woman deserving of our deepest gratitude for the enormous contributions that she made in the lives of children in eastern North Carolina and to the entire community.

RECONCILIATION ACT OF 2010

SPEECH OF

HON. CHAKA FATTAH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Sunday, March 21, 2010

Mr. FATTAH. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take the opportunity to mark the passage of this historic legislation and to thank the individuals whose hard work made this moment possible. Of course we would never have gotten here without the perseverance of our Speaker, NANCY PELOSI, Majority Leader STENY HOYER, and Majority Whip, JIM CLYBURN. Also, Congressman JOHN LARSON, Chair of the Democratic Caucus and XAVIER BECERRA, Vice Chair. I would also like to thank Congressman CHRIS VAN HOLLEN for his leadership and the Committee and Subcommittee Chairs whose perseverance brought us to this historic vote today: Chairmen GEORGE MILLER from Education and Labor, CHARLIE RANGEL from Ways and Means, HENRY WAXMAN from Energy and Commerce and SANDER LEVIN from Ways and Means and Subcommittee Chairs PETE STARK from Ways and Means and FRANK PALLONE from Energy and Commerce. I would especially like to thank my regional colleagues, Education and Labor Subcommittee Chairman BOB ANDREWS, Budget Committee Vice Chair ALLYSON SCHWARTZ, House Administration Chairman BOB BRADY, Congressman MIKE DOYLE, Congressman PATRICK MURPHY and Congresswoman BARBARA LEE and Delegate DONNA CHRISTENSEN who represented the Congressional Black Caucus in critical negotiations. This bill will be good for my District, our region, and our country. We in the Congress owe a debt of gratitude to our President, Barack Obama, who led this historic effort.

I would be remiss if I didn’t thank the staff whose talents are rarely seen in public, but without whom this would never have happened. First, Liz King in my office, an ardent advocate for my constituents in this debate. In the White House, Nancy-Ann DeParle whose institutional memory and long-term commitment to healthcare access for all contributed to the success of this effort. Cheryl Parker Rose and Wendell Primus in the Speaker’s office, Catherine Tran in the Democratic Caucus, Debbie Curtis and Cybele Bjorklund on the Ways and Means Health Subcommittee, Michele Varnhagen on the Education and Labor Health Subcommittee and Karen Nelson on the Energy and Commerce Health Subcommittee staff.

On the local level, I would like to extend my appreciation to Marc Stier at Health Care for America NOW and Bob Brand a close friend, local advocate and veteran in this fight. I would also like to thank the countless constituents who called my Washington and Philadelphia offices, sharing their stories and raising their voices on behalf of health reform for themselves and their neighbors.

I want to thank and congratulate each and every one of them for getting this bill to this point and for giving me the opportunity to vote for affordable, secure healthcare for America’s families.

RECONCILIATION ACT OF 2010

SPEECH OF

HON. HENRY A. WAXMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Sunday, March 21, 2010

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Speaker, regarding spiritual care: The purpose of health care reform has been to ensure that all Americans are covered by affordable, quality insurance. Some of my colleagues have raised concerns about how this impacts Christian Scientists who use certain primary care services that are currently eligible for a medical care tax deduction.

Nothing in this health care reform legislation prevents insurance companies from covering care that is currently recognized by the Internal Revenue Service as eligible for a medical care tax deduction through health insurance plans in the Exchanges; nothing in the legislation is intended to have such a prohibition. Nothing in this legislation is intended to minimize or reduce existing provisions in the law that recognizes spiritual care.

Individual responsibility: The individual responsibility requirement requires individuals to pay a tax on their individual tax filings or provide information documenting they fulfill the requirements for having essential minimum coverage over the past year. Congress makes the following findings to support this requirement:

The individual responsibility requirement provided for in the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, and amended by Section 1002 of the Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act, requires individuals either to purchase a minimum level of insurance coverage or to make a payment on one's tax return to help cover the cost of uncompensated care. This requirement is commercial and economic in nature and substantially affects interstate commerce in many ways, including as a result of the following aggregate effects:

(1) The requirement regulates activity that is commercial and economic in nature, involving the distribution and consumption of health care services throughout the national economy, and in particular economic and financial decisions about how and when health care is paid for and when health insurance is purchased. Some individuals currently make an economic and financial decision to forego health insurance coverage and self-insure, paying for charges for services directly to the provider and relying on uncompensated care. The decision by individuals not to purchase health insurance has many substantial effects on the national economy, the national marketplace for health insurance, and interstate commerce. In general, individuals who fail to purchase health insurance have a diminished capacity to purchase health care services, and increase overall health care costs. When such individuals inevitably seek medical care, the costs of that care must often be paid for by providers, insured individuals and businesses through higher premiums, or Federal, State, and local governments. The requirement encourages prepayment for services, and affects an individual's decision whether or not to purchase health insurance by imposing penalties on individuals who remain uninsured. Congressional Budget Office, *Key Issues in Analyzing Major Health Insurance Proposals*, December 2008.

(2) The uninsured receive about \$86,000,000,000 in health care, of which about \$56,000,000,000 is uncompensated. Private spending on uncompensated care is \$14,500,000,000, and includes profits forgone by physicians and hospitals. Government spending on uncompensated care is \$42,900,000,000, and is financed by taxpayers at both the State and Federal levels. Jack Hadley et al., *Covering the Uninsured in 2008: Current Costs, Sources of Payment, and Incremental Costs*, Health Affairs, August 25, 2008.

(3) Health care received by the uninsured is more costly. The uninsured are more likely to be hospitalized for preventable conditions. Jack Hadley, *Economic Consequences of Being Uninsured: Uncompensated Care, Inefficient Medical Care Spending, and Foregone Earnings*, Testimony before the Senate Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies, May 14, 2003. Hospitals provide uncompensated care of \$35,000,000,000, representing on average 5 percent of hospital revenues. Health Affairs, August 25, 2008.

(4) Those who have private health insurance also pay for uncompensated care. Medical providers try to recoup the cost from private insurers, which increases family premiums by an average of over \$1,000 a year. Families USA, *Hidden Health Tax: Americans Pay a Premium*, May 2009.

(5) The decision to self-insure increases financial risks to households throughout the United States. Sixty-two percent of all personal bankruptcies are caused by illness or medical bills, and a significant portion of medically bankrupted families lacked health insurance or experienced a recent lapse in coverage. David U. Himmelstein et al., *American Journal of Medicine, Medical Bankruptcy in the United States*, 2007: Results of a National Study, 2009.

(6) The national economy loses up to \$207,000,000,000 a year because of the poorer health and shorter lifespan of the uninsured. Elizabeth Carpenter and Sarah Axen, *The Cost of Doing Nothing*, New America Foundation, November 2008.

(7) A large share of the uninsured are offered insurance at low or zero premiums, but choose to forego coverage. New America Foundation, December 6, 2007. According to one estimate, the absence of a requirement from health reform would leave 50 percent of the uninsured without coverage. Linda J. Blumberg and John Holahan, *Do Individual Mandates Matter?*, The Urban Institute, January 2008. While generous subsidies alone would not achieve universal coverage, the requirement further expands coverage. Congressional Budget Office, December 2008. The requirement improves budgetary efficiency by significantly lowering the federal cost per newly insured. Jonathan Gruber, *Covering the Uninsured in the U.S.*, National Bureau of Economic Research, January 2008. In Massachusetts, where a similar requirement has been in effect since 2007, the share of uninsured declined to 2.7 percent in 2009. Massachusetts Division of Healthcare Finance and Policy.

(8) By regulating the decision to self-insure, and expanding coverage, the requirement addresses the problem of free riders who rely on more costly uncompensated care, including access to emergency care required by federal

law to be provided even to the uninsured, shifting costs to medical providers, taxpayers, and the privately insured. It will also reduce the cost to the national economy of the lower productivity of the uninsured.

The preceding 8 points cite numerous studies and papers which illustrate the extensive evidence that the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, as amended by Section 1002 of the Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act, substantially affects interstate commerce. These citations are included in their written entirety for the record.

RECOGNIZING WALTER RICHARDSON UPON RECEIVING THE CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 25, 2010

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Walter Richardson, a veteran, a Tuskegee Airman, and a true American hero. Walt has spent his life dedicated to his country, his community, and his family, and I am proud to honor his achievements and life of service.

A Pensacola, Florida native, Walt Richardson is first and foremost an American patriot. During his thirty years with the United States Air Force, Walt served in many of our Nation's wars and conflicts. Walt joined the revered Tuskegee Airmen, training at Tuskegee Army Airfield in a variety of disciplines that would serve him throughout his entire career. During his time with the Tuskegee Airmen, Walt was part of "Operation Happiness," the first all-military troupe to entertain at air bases. His military service also took him to Vietnam, and while stationed at Dover Air Force Base, Walt became the first African-American to be promoted to master sergeant in the field maintenance squadron. He retired as a chief master sergeant, the highest enlisted rank in the Air Force.

Beyond his full-time career with the Air Force, Walt is a dedicated community servant in Northwest Florida. For the past 29 years, he has served as a permanent deacon of St. Mary Parish in Fort Walton Beach. He also recently completed a book about his life story entitled "How Great Thou Art: A Black Boy's Depression-era Success Story." In 2009, Walt traveled to Washington, DC, as a special guest of the President for the inauguration. For his service to his country as part of the Tuskegee Airmen, I have the honor of presenting Walter Richardson the Congressional Gold Medal, the highest civilian honor in the United States.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I am humbled to venerate Walt Richardson as an American hero and a community leader. Our Nation is proud and grateful for his courage, service, and patriotism. My wife Vicki and all wish all the best to Walt, his wife, Helen, his eight children, his grandchildren, and his entire extended family.

SMALL BUSINESS AND INFRA-
STRUCTURE JOBS TAX ACT OF
2010

SPEECH OF

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 24, 2010

Mrs. MALONEY. Madam Speaker, as chair of the Joint Economic Committee, I ask the Commissioner of the Bureau of Labor Statistics to come before my committee and report on the latest employment situation.

In February 2009, the BLS Commissioner reported grim employment statistics.

At that hearing we learned that in January of 2009, total nonfarm payroll employment fell by 779,000 jobs. That was a staggering number.

A number like that made it abundantly clear that the task of turning the economy around was going to be enormous.

The bursting of the housing bubble and the stock market decline vaporized trillions of dollars in household wealth, leaving consumers reeling and unwilling or unable to spend.

It was a situation that called for unprecedented interventions, swift action, and—let me acknowledge it—a thick skin.

It was a situation where we needed to act on many fronts all at once to get the economy on track and restore the stability of the financial system.

The Fed prevented another Great Depression and the stimulus bill proved central to our recovery.

The stimulus bill included the fastest and one of the largest tax cuts in our history. Tax cuts went out almost immediately for 95 percent of working Americans.

We passed 24 tax cuts to date including some for small businesses, first time homebuyers and families with kids in college.

We helped struggling State and local budgets with badly needed funding to keep teachers in the schools, and police on the streets.

We extended unemployment benefits to help those who had lost a job through no fault of their own.

We passed tax cuts for 1st time homebuyers.

We passed Cash for Clunkers.

We passed the HIRE Act to provide tax incentives for private sector businesses that hire out-of-work Americans.

The House is now set to pass the Small Business and Infrastructure Jobs Tax Act, which will, among other things, extend the "Build America Bonds" program from the Recovery Act.

This program has been extremely successful at reducing the cost of financing for State and local governments which use the money for rebuilding of schools, sewers, and hospitals, rebuilding America and putting people back to work. I urge every one of my colleagues to vote for this bill.

And the actions we have taken have begun to have effect. Not as fast as any of us would like—but turning a supertanker of an economy like ours around—just can't happen on a dime.

First, the jobs losses began to moderate—decreasing month after month.

Then our Gross Domestic Product turned around from minus 6.4 percent in the first quarter of 2009 to a plus 5.9 percent last quarter.

At the last two jobs hearings before the JEC, the BLS Commissioner reported that the number of unemployed persons was essentially unchanged. The punishing job losses had been stopped.

In November 2009, the economy actually created jobs, on net. I expect that soon the economy will start creating jobs every month and Americans will start going back to work.

It was also important for our long-term economic health that we took the historic step of reforming health care. Left unchanged, the soaring costs of health care insurance were a problem that would be certain to act as a drag on our economy.

And, according to the non-partisan Congressional Budget Office, health care reform will produce a net reduction in federal deficits of \$143 billion over the next ten years. And it is estimated, by \$1.3 trillion over the next 20.

It sometimes seems that in all the noise, ill will, and the invective, what has really been accomplished by this country has been lost or overlooked.

18 months ago, we stood on the brink of an economic abyss so deep and dark it was fearful to even contemplate. The voices of doom were many, the predictions grim. The outlook was uncertain.

Though much remains to be done, so much has already been achieved.

It has been a tough year—it is tough for millions still. But we are making progress. We are not there yet—but without question we are moving forward.

As I look out on America and contemplate our future—I am filled with hope and optimism. The steps we have taken—have put us on the path to recovery and renewal.

And as we prepare for spring recess, let's be mindful of the season and the "green shoots" that are beginning to push upwards.

REMARKS ON THE PASSING OF
COLONEL JOHN REES

HON. K. MICHAEL CONAWAY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 25, 2010

Mr. CONAWAY. Madam Speaker, I rise tonight to pay tribute to a visionary man and true American hero, Colonel John Rees.

John Cliff Rees was born in 1922 on his family farm in Mason County, Kentucky. After graduating from high school and then Bowling Green Business University, he met and married the love of his life, Bess Anderson. Not long after that, John joined the Army Air Corps and was commissioned as a 2nd Lieutenant in 1944.

In time, John would serve in four wars: World War II, Korea, Vietnam, and the Cold War, eventually earning the rank of Colonel. While there are many men who have served with as much pride, honor, and distinction as Colonel Rees has, I remember him today specifically for the last stop on his tour of duty. As Colonel, he was appointed the Wing Commander at Goodfellow Air Force Base in San Angelo, Texas. In that position, both he and his wife came to be known and loved by the people of San Angelo. A kind man with a keen intellect, Colonel Rees worked relentlessly to forge a deeper bond between the Base and the City.

In one of his lasting legacies to the people of San Angelo, he was instrumental in bringing a linguistic training center to the base, breathing new life into its mission and ensuring that the base would remain a strategic asset in the community for years to come.

Colonel Rees passed away on October 12, 2009. Some weeks ago, Colonel Rees' wife Bess also passed away on March 3, 2010. They will be laid to rest together the Friday after Easter, April 9, 2010, in Arlington National Cemetery. Colonel Rees was a dedicated and faithful servant of the American people and has rightly earned his place in Arlington.

Death is always a heavy burden to bear for those of us who remain behind, but I know that Colonel Rees is with God in all his glory and has been reunited with the love of his life in heaven. On behalf of the people of San Angelo, the people of Texas, and all Americans, I offer his family my deepest condolences. Your father fought gallantly to protect the nation he loved. He was our commander, our friend, our mentor, and our inspiration.

As Colonel John Rees is laid to rest next month, I know that the lives of his family and friends will dim just a bit. However, they need only look up to the sky to see that the stars over Texas shine brighter because he looks down on us all.

HONORING IVONNE ALEXANDER

HON. MARIO DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 25, 2010

Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Ivonne Alexander, a leader in South Dade's agriculture industry, and Chief Financial Officer of Nature's Way Nursery.

A native of Havana, Cuba, Ivonne came to the U.S. with her family at the age of 12. She studied accounting and finance at Miami-Dade College and Florida International University and took her first job with Farm Credit in 1972 as an accounting clerk. She later became a loan officer, and went on to be Internal Auditor, Senior Vice President and Area Manager. In 1995, she left Farm Credit and became general manager for Mike Costa Foliage, while at the same time, building her own business, Happy Days Nursery, and offering consulting to others.

Today, Ivonne continues to guide the agribusiness community in South Dade, and is the leader on issues affecting the industry like labor, immigration, the environment and the economy. She was the first woman in the Nation to be a loan officer and certified appraiser with Farm Credit and was named Agriculturist of the Year by the Greater Homestead/Florida City Chamber of Commerce. She has paved the way for others, specifically women, to follow her in the agriculture industry, in both farming and business components. Ivonne has the right attitude and mind frame to get the job done, and does not stop until she achieves positive results. Her passion, commitment and hard work have allowed her to get as far as she has, despite the fact that she is a woman in what has historically been a man's industry, and has inspired others to do the same.

As we celebrate Women's History Month, I ask that you join me in thanking Ivonne Alexander for her contributions to the agriculture industry and honoring her work.

RECOGNIZING JEFFREY MICHAEL ROSS OF ROSEVILLE, CALIFORNIA

HON. TOM MCCLINTOCK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 25, 2010

Mr. MCCLINTOCK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Jeffrey Michael Ross of Roseville, California.

On July 12, 2009 Jeffrey witnessed a driver lose control of her vehicle and careen into the canal in Rancho Cordova. Running to the water's edge, Mr. Ross found the vehicle sinking quickly and the semiconscious driver trapped inside.

In a situation where some would feel helpless, Jeffrey took decisive action. He dove into the water and swam towards the car, forced open the window and started to pull the victim out. As water continued to rush inside the car, it slipped beneath the surface with the driver still inside. Ross continued to fight and freed the driver, bringing her safely to the surface.

Jeffrey's act of courage and kindness is an example of the highest values of citizenship, and a credit to himself, his family and our community. I am proud to rise today to honor Mr. Ross and recognize him for receiving the Congressional Medal of Honor Foundation's Citizen Service Above Self Honors award earlier today in a ceremony at Arlington National Cemetery.

IN RECOGNITION OF DR. DREW EDWIN MARSHALL'S 5TH ANNIVERSARY AS SENIOR PASTOR OF TRINITY MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

HON. GARY C. PETERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 25, 2010

Mr. PETERS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the leadership of Dr. Drew Edwin Marshall on the occasion of his 5th Anniversary in ministry to the congregation of Trinity Missionary Baptist Church. As a Member of Congress it is both my honor and privilege to recognize Dr. Marshall for achieving this milestone.

Trinity Missionary Baptist Church, which was founded as the City of Pontiac's first African-American church in 1917 with support from the Memorial Baptist Church in Pontiac, has a long, rich history as a pillar of spiritual fellowship in the community. Trinity's congregation and leadership, under Reverend Gulley, came together to endure turbulent beginnings in the face of a fuel shortage which initially closed the Church for a year, to continue their pursuit of spiritual well-being. Since its founding, Trinity's congregation and leadership have been devoted to creating a stronger, more vibrant Pontiac spiritual community. In its efforts to attain its goals, Trinity opened a child development center and a school in the early 1990s to provide better service to the Pontiac community.

This year marks an important milestone in the spiritual leadership Dr. Drew Marshall has provided as Senior Pastor to the congregation of Trinity Missionary Baptist Church. Dr. Marshall, a Pontiac native, has devoted over three decades of his life to the study and practice of divinity. Dr. Marshall heard the call to service over 35 years ago, accepting his first ministerial position with Trinity shortly before graduating with a Bachelor of Arts from the University of Michigan. Dr. Marshall's journey led him from Pontiac, to Colgate Rochester Divinity School, where he obtained his Masters in Divinity, to Texas, where he served as Minister of Christian Education at New Faith Church. It is only fitting Dr. Marshall's recognition comes for his service with Trinity Missionary Baptist Church, as it is the very place he heard the call to serve over three decades ago.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in recognizing Trinity Missionary Baptist Church's Senior Pastor, Dr. Drew Edwin Marshall, on the occasion of his 5th Anniversary as the Church's spiritual leader and wish him, his family, and the congregation at Trinity many more years of happiness, health and service to the Pontiac community.

SMALL BUSINESS AND INFRASTRUCTURE JOBS TAX ACT OF 2010

SPEECH OF

HON. JOHN B. LARSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 24, 2010

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 4849, the Small Business and Infrastructure Jobs Tax Act of 2010. The passage of this bill will create jobs and continue to revive our economy.

In particular, I would like to highlight a portion of this bill that has proven itself as a job creator and with passage of this legislation will continue to put people back to work: the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families, or "TANF," Emergency Contingency Fund. Since its enactment as part of the Recovery Act, the TANF Emergency Contingency Fund has created or maintained 160,000 jobs and by extending the fund for an additional year it will create thousands more.

This is an effort that has broad bipartisan support. Kevin Hassett, a scholar for the American Enterprise Institute, has said that "Given the state of the labor market, it is hard to imagine how any sensible person could oppose such a move," and both Democratic and Republican Governors have supported extending the program.

A few weeks ago in Connecticut I met with leaders in the state government, the business community and the non-profit community to discuss their efforts to utilize the Emergency Contingency Fund. The extension that we are passing today will allow them to take full advantage of this program as they have committed to putting together a plan to use this funding to create jobs in the state.

I want to thank Chairman LEVIN for his hard work on this bill as well as the Caucus Jobs Task Force—particularly Dr. JUDY CHU, JIM McDERMOTT, and Co-Chairs ALCEE HASTINGS and BETTY SUTTON. Each of these members

has made a tremendous commitment to putting Americans back to work and I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF SENATE AMENDMENTS TO H.R. 3590, SERVICE MEMBERS HOME OWNERSHIP TAX ACT OF 2009, AND PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 4872, HEALTH CARE AND EDUCATION RECONCILIATION ACT OF 2010

SPEECH OF

HON. JEB HENSARLING

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Sunday, March 21, 2010

Mr. HENSARLING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong opposition to this rule and the underlying health care legislation it is attempting to impose upon the American people. Despite the claim often made by my friends on the other side of the aisle, Republicans agree that we must reform health care in America. The current system is unsustainable, and simply doing nothing is not an option.

While I strongly oppose the underlying legislation and the direction it proposes to take health care in America, I do not support inaction to reform health care. Simply doing nothing is not an option. My vision of health care reform will ensure that Americans can get the health care that you need, when you need it, and at a price you can afford. I want to provide all Americans with access to health care that is affordable, portable, accessible, of high quality, and preserves choice for Americans.

In the health care reform debate, I believe it is critical that we remember the Hippocratic Oath: first, do no harm. Health care reform should also respect the sacredness of the doctor-patient relationship and ensure that the federal government does not interfere with the ability of patients and their doctors to make decisions about care. Health care reform should also lower costs for patients, and bend the overall health care cost curve downward. Health care in the United States represents one-sixth of our economy, and ultimately affects every man, woman, and child. Any health care reforms made will have an impact that is far and wide throughout America. It is critical that we ensure the reforms we pursue are the right reforms that will improve health care, because the wrong reforms could have devastating and long-lasting consequences for the greatest health care system in the world. As important as it is to reform health care quickly, it is more important to reform health care correctly.

I believe five principles should guide any health reform effort. One, every American, regardless of health or financial status, should have access to affordable health care coverage of their choice. Nobody should go bankrupt because they get sick. Two, health care in America should be family-focused and patient-centered. It must put patients, in consultation with their doctors, in control of their health care. Your health care decisions should not be made by your employer, a health care plan selected by your employer, or the government. Three, people should own and control their health care plan, and it should be personal and portable. Four, Americans who are

happy with their current plan should be allowed to keep it. Five, forcing Americans into a government health care program will not solve America's health care challenges.

There are many ideas that I truly believe will help bring down the cost of health care for Americans without a government take-over. However, the only way to truly lower costs is to empower a competitive health care market for health care. Despite what you think we don't have a competitive marketplace today. To help spur the creation of one, several ideas stand out. First, Congress should pass meaningful medical liability reform. I have cosponsored legislation that would provide meaningful medical liability reform, the Help Efficient, Accessible, Low-cost, Timely Health Care Act (H.R. 1086), and medical liability reform was included as part of the Republican substitute I voted for when the House debated its health care legislation in November 2009. Precious health care resources are wasted because physicians have to over-utilize health care and practice defensive medicine when treating patients in order to protect themselves from junk lawsuits pursued by trial lawyers. Enacting medical liability reforms would lower health care costs by cutting down on the practice of defensive medicine. Additionally, medical liability reform would help bring doctors back to those areas where junk lawsuits and high malpractice insurance has chased them away. Since 2003, when Texas enacted medical liability reform, the state has been flooded with applications of new physicians seeking to practice in Texas. In areas where specialists, such as OB/GYN physicians, had long ago quit practicing, you now have an OB/GYN delivering babies once again.

Additionally, I believe that Americans should be able to shop across state lines to find the health care plan that best suits their needs. Why can Americans buy car insurance across state lines, but they can't buy health insurance across state lines. By forcing health plan providers to compete, not only within their respective states for customers, but across the nation, competition will force insurers to deliver health care plans at competitive costs or see business go elsewhere. I have cosponsored legislation that would permit Americans to purchase health insurance across state lines, the Health Care Choice Act (H.R. 3217), and this commonsense reform was included in the Republican substitute considered during consideration of the House-passed health care bill.

To further empower a competitive marketplace, individuals should be given the same tax incentive to go out into the marketplace to purchase their own health insurance that businesses are to provide health care for their employees. This current disparity in our tax laws leaves individuals tethered to employer-provided health care plans and the jobs that provide them. By empowering individuals to purchase individual health coverage and have the same tax-advantaged basis as employer-provided coverage, we can free employees to shop around for coverage that best suits them, instead of simply taking what their employers offer.

Additionally, I have cosponsored Representative PAUL RYAN's Roadmap for America's Future Act (H.R. 4529). This sweeping piece of legislation takes our nation's toughest fiscal challenges head on and solves them. In addition to making both Medicare and Social Security solvent for future generations, this legis-

lation would also reform our health care system in a patient-centered manner that harnesses the power of the marketplace—not government—to provide Americans with access to high-quality, affordable health care. It does so without raising taxes or inserting a federal bureaucrat between you and your doctor.

When it comes to health care reform, the American people want a tune-up, they don't want repossession. The massive power grab that the underlying health care legislation represents will fundamentally change the relationship between the government and its citizens. For example, the Senate-passed health care legislation requires all Americans to have bureaucrat-approved health insurance or else be subject to criminal penalties. I believe such a requirement to be unconstitutional to begin with. However, even if it is one day ruled constitutional by our nation's judiciary, if the federal government requires you to buy health insurance today, what is it going to require you to buy tomorrow? Such a provision significantly moves us towards waking up one day and finding that the sovereign power in our nation rests not with "we the people" but with "we the government."

I also oppose the underlying health care legislation because of its blatant disregard for the sanctity of human life. Despite the fig-leaf attempts to cloud the issue, fundamentally, this is the most pro-abortion piece of legislation to be considered by Congress since the tragic Supreme Court decision of *Roe v. Wade*. The Senate-passed bill does nothing more than set up an accounting gimmick for government-subsidized health care plans that cover elective abortions participating in the exchanges. If the legislation truly embodied the principle that no federal funds would be used to subsidize elective abortions, the Stupak-Pitts amendment that this House approved as part of the House-passed health care bill on November 7, 2009 would be in the legislation today.

To the glaring absence of the Stupak-Pitts language, my friends on the other side of the aisle are now pointing to the promise of an Executive Order from President Obama. While such an Executive Order may seem to be a protection for the unborn, it is nothing of the sort. First, the underlying Senate-passed bill that will become law if passed by this House and signed into law by President Obama contains provisions that specifically set up mechanisms whereby federal taxpayer money could be used to subsidize or pay for elective abortions. Supreme Court decisions have reaffirmed that an Executive Order cannot override a statute in law. Secondly, just as easily as an Executive Order is given, an Executive Order can be taken away. Even if you believed that President Obama's Executive Order protected the rights of the unborn, it would have no lasting permanence. To overturn this Executive Order, a future president—or even President Obama himself—need only issue an Executive Order canceling it, leaving the protection of the unborn up to the stroke of a pen.

I also oppose the underlying legislation for the provisions that threaten the health care of our seniors and the future of Medicare. The underlying legislation contains over one-half trillion dollars in Medicare cuts. Within those cuts, Medicare Advantage plans are particularly hit hard. Medicare Advantage plans are

currently providing quality health care coverage to millions of American seniors. These plans have grown in popularity over the years, demonstrating their appeal as seniors have voted with their feet to enroll in them. The cuts to Medicare Advantage in the Senate-passed bill would endanger the current health care coverage of seniors who have it, breaking a fundamental promise made by Democrats throughout this debate that if you like your current health care coverage, you could keep it.

The Medicare cuts are also troubling to me because, instead of being reinvested in the Medicare benefit to improve the solvency and future of Medicare, they are used to help pay for the new health care entitlement created in the underlying legislation. Medicare is already on the road to insolvency in the near future. According to the 2009 Medicare Trustees Report, Medicare has \$38 trillion in unfunded liabilities—promises made already that we can't pay for—and the Medicare Trust Fund will go broke in 2017. Since we will already have challenges paying for the Medicare benefits we've already promised, why are we taking money from Medicare and spending it elsewhere, instead of working to increase the solvency of Medicare to protect it for future beneficiaries?

On top of the reasons I've stated previously, I also oppose this legislation because it contains jobs-killing tax increases. The underlying legislation also includes approximately one-half trillion dollars in tax increases. While I believe that raising taxes is never the solution, how can anyone believe that raising taxes during our current economic troubles is a good idea? Despite the unprecedented spending spree that President Obama and Congressional Democrats embarked upon in February 2009, the United States continues to have an unemployment rate that is near double digits and the economy continues to shed jobs. At the outset of this year, the majority announced that jobs were their number one legislative priority. Yet, how can jobs be the number one priority when legislation that contains jobs-killing tax increases is being brought before us today?

The final reason that I oppose this rule and the underlying legislation is that, simply put, the United States cannot afford this new entitlement. Do my friends on the other side of the aisle know that our country is going broke? Before President Obama took office, America was headed toward a fiscal cliff. However, instead of working to improve our fiscal situation, President Obama and Congressional Democrats have stepped upon the accelerator hastening the day of fiscal reckoning. Overall, under honest accounting standards, this legislation will cost \$2.6 trillion—or over \$22,000 per household. It is a bill that is filled with budget gimmicks, and the true cost obfuscated by smoke and mirrors accounting that would make Bernie Madoff blush. This legislation takes the half-trillion in Medicare cuts and uses them to pay for the new spending in the bill. Yet, somehow it also claims to use the savings from Medicare to increase Medicare's solvency. How can one set of Medicare savings be used twice?

The underlying legislation also raids the Social Security Trust Fund to the tune of \$53 billion, taking funds that would be destined to pay future Social Security benefits and instead uses them to reduce the overall cost of the bill. The benefits those funds were supposed

to pay for will still have to paid for eventually, requiring taxpayers to make up the difference.

This legislation also creates a new entitlement program known as the CLASS Act, which is supposed to be supported by premiums. However, to help bring the cost of the underlying legislation down, Democrats take the premiums from this program and spend them elsewhere. Thus, premiums that should be supporting this program are used elsewhere, leaving taxpayers to make up the lost funds in the future. This accounting gimmick is so bad, that even Senate Budget Committee Chairman KENT CONRAD has called this “a ponzi scheme.”

This legislation is also fiscally dishonest because it attempts to hide its true cost through manipulation of congressional scoring procedures. The underlying legislation will collect 10 years of revenues to pay for 6 years of spending. By delaying the onset of benefits, Democrats are attempting to hide the cost of their health care legislation. Do Democrats intend for the health care bill to be turned off every decade for 4 years? Certainly not, but this setup is not by chance, as its purpose is to get the 10 year cost of the bill down.

In order to draw attention away from the fiscal flaws with this legislation, Democrats have been waiving estimates from CBO claiming their bill reduces the deficit. The dirty Washington secret is that CBO estimates are based on what is put in front of them. If you give CBO garbage on one side, garbage comes out the other. For instance, the underlying legislation assumes that physicians will receive a 21 percent Medicare reimbursement cut later this year. However, prior to today, Speaker PELOSI has already announced her support for passing what Washington calls the “doc fix.” Yet, the underlying bill assumes a 21 percent physician reimbursement cut. Instead of putting the “doc fix” in the underlying legislation, it was left out to ensure that the overall cost of the bill officially was lower. However, this does nothing to lower the overall cost to the American people. In fact, when you assume the “doc fix” will occur as well, CBO says the deficit will actually be increased as a result of passing the underlying legislation. In a March 19, 2010 letter to Representative PAUL RYAN, CBO writes, “You asked about the total budgetary impact of enacting the reconciliation proposal (the amendment to H.R. 4872), the Senate-passed health bill (H.R. 3590), and the Medicare Physicians Payment Reform Act of 2009 (H.R. 3961). CBO estimates that enacting all three pieces of legislation would add \$59 billion to budget deficits over the 2010–2019 period.” Democrats are either going to cut physician payments by 21 percent, or they’re not going to and increase the deficit. They can’t have it both ways.

Despite the protests of my friends across the aisle, the bill before us today cannot be mistaken for anything other than what it is: a government take-over of our health care. This legislation takes health care in our nation in a fundamentally different direction as it puts a federal bureaucrat or politician between you and your doctor by empowering the federal government to substitute its decision-making regarding your health care decisions in place of that of you and your doctor. If you love the way the federal government has run AIG, our banks, and our auto companies, you’ll love the way they run your health care.

But even more than cost, this is really a debate about who will control the health care resources of this Nation and who will control the health care decisions of our families. If we pass this bill, we will wake up one day only to find that when our loved ones become ill, they will wait weeks, perhaps months, to see a mediocre doctor of the government’s choosing, only to be told by that same doctor that he cannot help because his treatment must be limited by the government protocol.

To see what health care in America could look like in the years to come, we need only look to those systems in the United Kingdom and Canada that the underlying health care legislation before us today tries to take us in the direction of. After hearing the stories of how those systems provide health care, I can’t imagine any American who would want our health care experiences to be like those of the British and Canadians.

Would you want you or your loved ones to have the experience of Linda O’Boyle from Great Britain? Linda was a 64 year old mother of 3 and grandmother of 4 who was fighting cancer. After weeks of chemotherapy, doctors told her there wasn’t much they could do for her. However, her consultant suggested a new drug called Cetuximab, which he applied for permission from the National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (NICE) to treat her with this drug, but was denied. Linda and her husband decided to pay for the drug themselves out of their savings. However, this was a violation of National Health Service policy and Linda was denied the “free” treatment by the NHS because she had privately paid for a cancer medication that prolonged her life. The NHS completely withdrew treatment, including chemotherapy. Linda died in March 2008. The Southend University Hospital NHS foundation trust, where Linda was getting her treatment said in a statement: “A patient can choose whether to continue with the treatment available under the NHS or opt to go privately for a different treatment regime. It is explained to the patient that they can either have their treatment under the NHS or privately, but not both or in parallel.”

Would you want you or your loved ones to have the experience that David Malleau of Canada did? David was a 44 year old truck driver who was in a bad car accident in 2004. Doctors were forced to remove a fist-piece size of bone from his skull to relieve pressure on his brain. After the swelling subsided, he was ready for surgery in March 2005. He was sent home and placed on a waiting list for surgery to replace the removed portion of his skull. Because of the threat of something hitting the exposed side of his brain, David was confined to his home while waiting on the surgery. Ultimately, he waited nearly a year for skull replacement surgery.

Would you want you or your loved ones to have the experience of Lindsay McCreith? Lindsay is a man in his 60s who went to the ER and a CT scan showed a large wedge-shaped brain tumor. He was discharged from the hospital 4 days later with a diagnosis of a stroke and given anti-seizure medication. Wanting to see if the tumor was cancerous, Lindsay wanted an MRI. He was given an appointment for one 4 months later. Not wanting to wait that long, Lindsay came to the United States and paid \$494.67 for the MRI. He took the results to his Canadian family doctor, who

referred him to a neurologist. He was examined by the neurologist and referred to a neurosurgeon. However, to see the neurosurgeon, Lindsay would have to wait 3 months. Not wanting to wait that long to determine if he had cancer, Lindsay returned to the US and a biopsy found the tumor was malignant, and the tumor was subsequently surgically removed.

My friends on the other side of the aisle think that won’t and can’t happen in America. If the underlying bill becomes law, I hope and pray they are right. Unfortunately, I have low expectations that the experiences of patients in the United Kingdom and Canada can be avoided in the United States if this health care legislation becomes law.

I think another indication of the future of health care in America can be found in career paths that current physicians recommend to their own children. Since the health care reform debate began in 2009, I had the opportunity to meet with dozens of physicians throughout the Fifth Congressional District of Texas, which I have the privilege to represent. In my discussions with these physicians, I asked them whether or not they would recommend to their children a career in medicine as a physician. With very few exceptions, these physicians told me that they have encouraged their children to seek careers elsewhere, as they believe physicians in the future will not be able to provide the care that is right for their patients, but will be limited to providing the care that is approved by the government. This anecdotal evidence is of great concern to me, because if current physicians won’t even encourage their own children to practice medicine, will Americans continue to see our best and brightest students continue to choose medicine? My fear is that we will not, and in the future you will be seeing the doctor who was a “C” student, instead of seeing a doctor who was an “A” student, like you can today.

In America, we must never confuse the social safety net with the slippery slope to socialism. When it comes to the health care of my family, when it comes to the health care of my country, I reject the hubris and arrogance of government social engineering, and I embrace the affordability and portability that comes by preserving the liberties of the American people.

Mr. Speaker, if this legislation passes and becomes law, Americans will not stop being Americans. Each generation of Americans before us has passed on a legacy of more freedom and opportunity than the one it was left. We owe it to our children and our grandchildren to make their pursuit of happiness easier than our own. This legislation takes us in the exact opposite direction.

But despite the obstacles that Washington places along their paths in pursuit of their own happiness, Americans will continue to work hard, think hard, and employ the exceptionalism that has made our nation the beacon of freedom that we are today. Americans will find a way, Madam Speaker, to overcome the new taxes, the new spending, and the new mandates that are contained in this legislation. They will find a way—they must find a way—if we are to keep the Republic that we inherited from our forefathers.